FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARAB LEAGUE MINISTERS BEGIN SESSION IN TUNIS

LD271513 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tunis--The extraordinary session of the Council of Ministers of Arab countries opened at 1005 at the Hilton Hotel. Delegations of all 21 member states are attending.

The opening speech was delivered by Sa'dun Hammadi, Iraq's foreign minister and chairman of the current session of the Arab League Council. He welcomed the delegations to this extraordinary meeting by recalling that the league is an establishment set up to be a framework for understanding and dialog and to outline the path toward Arab unity. He said: "We must all put our efforts into it so as to complete this work in the way we desire."

He added that the league today needs moral backing through various means but it requires before anything else the construction of a new stand, a stand requiring us to have a sense of responsibility and to place public interest and objective self-denial above all considerations.

Sa'dun Hammadi added that Arab action should have truth as its goal. He said: "New tasks are awaiting us in the sphere of joint Arab action, hence we ought to realize relative progress in the work of this organization and our meeting today is one of the occasions for this purpose." He then stressed that the Iraqi delegation was bound by an objective spirit and by promoting public over regional interests. He expressed his hope that everyone will work on this basis and that this occasion will be a precedent to progress in understanding and dialog among the Arab countries and to realization of responsible joint action. He said: Let us work for the aims of our Arab nation and let us carry out positive action when we agree, also when we disagree. What is important is the manner by which we deal with this disagreement, not by sticking to our viewpoint but by placing public interests above emotions and narrow interests, since even in the event of disagreement we can find positive means for our progress.

Sa'dun Hammadi then gave the platform to Chedli Klibi, general secretary of the Arab League, who pointed out that it would have been preferable for the Arab countries to meet to drive away the enormous external dangers threatening the Arab nation, the foremost of which is the Zionist danger. He noted that the Israeli flag was hoisted for the first time in history over an Arab capital and ambassadors were exchanged between an Arab country and Israel.

He pointed to the need to take necessary measures to implement all commitments to remove the nightmare of violence and destruction in Lebanon and to enable the Palestinian resistance to continue its struggle. He said that today we are meeting to debate a grave dispute which broke out between two member countries of the Arab League that are linked by blood and history and joint struggle for independence and liberation.

The general secretary called on members of the league to find a practical formula that will enable the Arab League to intervene whenever a dispute occurs between two Arab states, irrespective of the measures that will be taken by the league's Ministerial Council regarding the dispute between Tunisia and Libya. Chedli Klibi noted that world and Arab public opinion awaits the results of today's meeting. He stressed that the solution to be approved by the league regarding the issue should be based on mutual respect, honest and truthful cooperation and good intentions so as to prove that the Arab League is the living conscience of the Arab nation. After Chedli Klibi's speech the council sat in camera.

Tunisian, Libyan Ministers Speak

NC271755 Paris AFP in English 1740 GMT 27 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpt] Tunis, Feb. 27, (AFP)--A special Arab League meeting called to discuss the attack on Tunisian troops at Qafsah last month opened today with Tunisia and Libya presenting opposing views of the incident in which 41 people reportedly died.

Tunisia's representative blamed the attack on Libya and his Libyan counterpart said it was an internal uprising. The meeting, called at the request of the two North African neighbors, underscored the extent of their differences.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri repeated the allegation that the bloody commando attack at the mining town was a Libyan attempt to overthrow the regime of President Habib Bourguiba, conference sources said.

Mr. Fitouri said "proof" of Libya's complicity had been furnished to delegates.

In his speech, whose text was released here, the minister said Tunisia was still in "painful circumstances" as a result of the attack, whose "serious repercussions do not solely concern Tunisia or the region, but the entire Arab nation."

Mr. Fitouri referred to those Arab states who "hesitated to condemn" (?Libya) [words indistinct] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, that it would "pursue the conflict with the Tunisian regime until it was eliminated."

Rejecting outright the Tunisian accusations, Libyan Foreign Minister 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki declared that the Qafsah attack was "a strictly internal Tunisian affair."

Libya, he said, had "absolutely nothing to do with popular discontent, workers' demonstrations or student strikes in Tunisia."

On Tunisia's evidence of Libyan responsibility for the attack, he told reporters outside the meeting that "any intelligence service can invent that kind of proof, like forged passports or confessions extracted by force."

Mr. at-Turayki also presented to delegates the Libyan complaint of a "French invasion of Tunisia", affirming that "French planes bombarded the popular masses at Qafsah" during the fighting.

Tunisian Minister's Speech

LD271752 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] The Arab League foreign ministers' extraordinary session is at this moment meeting in camera.

The session began its work at 1005 at the Hilton Hotel in Tunis and was opened by Sa'dun Hammadi, Iraqi foreign minister and chairman of the session.

The first closed session, which ended at 1315, was addressed by Tunisian Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri who reviewed details of the Libyan aggression against Qafsah and the irrefutable evidence that condemns the Libyan regime for this aggression, and also the subversive role being played by the Arab Liaison Bureau in Libya which recruits mercenaries in all Arab, African and other countries, provides funds and arms to these mercenaries and then dispatches them to subvert the regimes that exist in their countries after giving them military training in camps which are spread all over Libya and after taking away their (?identity) documents.

The foreign minister then referred to the intrigues carried out by the Libyan regime against Tunisia in the past 5 years, noting that Libyan officials used to deny what was attributed to them. But this time these same officials have declared that they are bent on continuing the struggle to overthrow the Tunisian regime. The foreign minister wondered what the league's (?attitude) toward these dangers would be, especially as the Libyan officials are defying all international charters and the Arab League Charter itself. Therefore, he said, we must be frank: Our aim must be to bring the whole truth out. It is time all Arabs realize that Arab unity is based on the unity of hearts and [word indistinct]. Therefore, we must abandon domination and leadership.

Arab, Muslim and nonalined Tunisia, he added, is placing its complaint before you today because Tunisia is part of the Arab world. He stressed that the behavior of the Libyan regime constitutes a danger to us, a danger to you and a danger to world peace. Duty calls for the containment of this danger. So, say what you think and do not fear any criticism when telling the truth.

TAP has learned from a source close to the Arab League Council that Libyan Foreign Minister Mr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki spoke at the closed session, denying his government's involvement in the Qafsah operation. He reiterated before the ministers and the amirs the farcical stories which the Libyan information media daily invent.

TAP has also learned that at the request of Syria, two points have been added to the agenda. These concern the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel and Israeli threats against Syria.

Two Syrian Proposals Approved

JN271648 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Tunis--In its first closed session, which began after the opening session before noon today, the Arab League Council unanimously approved two proposals submitted by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, to be added to the agenda.

The SANA correspondent in Tunis says that these two proposals are discussions of the As-Sadat-Israeli normalization of relations and the Israeli concentrations on the Syrian front. The Arab League Council will resume its meetings in Tunis this evening.

Tunisian-Libyan Relations Committee Formed

ID272258 Tunis TAP in Arab 1230 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] TAP has learned that the Arab League Council has entrusted a committee comprising the representatives of Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Syria with the task of bringing closer the viewpoints of Tunisia and Libya. The council will resume its session tomorrow morning.

'ARAFAT ATTACKS CARTER'S REMARKS ON PLO AT 27 FEB BANQUET

NC271904 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1515 GMT 27 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpts] A banquet was held at noon today at the FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH headquarters in honor of a delegation from the Soviet-Palestinian friendship society led by Comrade Yuriy Barabash, who is also first deputy minister of culture in the Soviet Union.

Fatah secretary brother Majid Abu Sharar welcomed the delegation and lauded the strong relations between the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nation on the one hand and the socialist camp, headed by the Soviet Union, on the other.

Comrade Barabash delivered a speech at the banquet in which he described his visit to the strugglers' camps in the south and dwelt on the strong relations between the Lebanese National Movement and the Palestinian revolution. He also talked about the Zionist enemy's deeds against the steadfast masses in the villages and townships of southern Lebanon and strongly attacked U.S. President Carter, who he said was lamenting [the fate of] Islam in Afghanistan while being fully aware of the situation in Jerusalem and Palestine.

At the end of the banquet, brother Abu 'Ammar stressed U.S. President Carter's remarks 2 days ago about the PLO, describing them as giving the green light to the Zionist entity to hit the Palestinian revolution. The banquet was also attended by several Lebanese journalists.

PFLP'S HABASH GIVES INTERVIEW TO BUDAPEST PAPER

AU261907 Budapest NEPSZAYA in Hungarian 24 Feb 80 p 2 AU

[Imre Krajczer article: "The Year of Lebanon--The Year of Palestine; Discussion in Beirut With Dr George Habash"]

[Text] Former President Camille Chamoun, who summoned U.S. troops to the country to save the right wing from defeat in the civil war 22 years ago, is regarded as the "grand old man" of the right wing in Lebanon. The politician, who is over 80, often acts as a soothsayer nowadays. Recently, several Beirut papers cited his statement to the effect that "1980 will be the year of Lebanon." Of course, Camille Chamoun hopes for a development that would again strengthen the positions of the right wing.

I have talked with several Palestinian leaders about Chamoun's prediction. First I asked Dr George Habash's opinion. Dr Habash is secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The front is one of the most influential components of Palestinian resistance and its leader is well known both as a pediatrician and a politician.

"I do not believe in such predictions," George Habash made clear right at the beginning of our discussion. "Since April 1975, the Lebanese right wing has been constantly striving to annihilate us, because the right wing can only conceive of "clarification" and "fulfillment" through our annihilation. One plan is made after another to achieve the rupture of the Palestinian movement. For instance, Israel waged a regular war against us at the beginning of 1978. Nevertheless, we are here and we are cooperating with the progressive Lebanese forces. And that is no accident.

"How much more can Chamoun do today than he has done in recent years? If Chamoun tries political pressure, we will resist it just as we have been resisting the previous military or combined military-political pressure."

[Question] Are you not concerned that the Syrian troop withdrawal or regrouping that has been announced might endanger the military and political positions of Palestinian resistance?

[Answer] The steps that are being planned will in all probability involve changes. What we regard as correct tactics is for us to prepare to fill the military and political vacuum that arises and to continue to reject any kind of a solution that would be tantamount to some "Palestinian Camp David."

[Question] The attention of the Islamic world seems to have turned away from the Palestinian issue. In your opinion, are there no dangers inherent in this?

[Answer] You are surely thinking of the Islamabad Islamic conference. When it was announced that an Islamic conference would be convened with regard to the Soviet Union according Afghanistan assistance, I asked: Where was Islam when As-Sadat went to Jerusalem? My organization, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, immediately saluted the Soviet Union for rushing to the aid of the Afghan revolution. To the fullest extent, we agree and have agreed with the Soviet Union, which has decided to respond resolutely to a many-sided imperialist challenge. I will recall at this point that it has been asserted more than once by the United States that in regards the area of the Persian Gulf and its defense as a "national interest." Our opinion is that this Washington policy constitutes intervention, and we have always opposed such a policy of intervention and endeavor to prevent the enforcement of such an interventionist policy.

Anyway, our documents prove that we have always sharply differentiated between assistance accorded to revolutions and imperialist aggression. We have, at all times, regarded imperialist presence as aggression and intervention and anti-imperialist assistance as solidarity.

The United States constantly intervenes in our area and always does so to our detriment. Camp David was intervention; assisting Zionist aggression politically and militarily was constant intervention. Also the U.S. policy of arming Iran and turning it into the gendarme of the Near and Middle East at the time constituted intervention in the area.

I also regard the Islamabad Conference as intervention in our affairs. Not Islam, but U.S. imperialism was defended at the Pakistani capital. To be sure, Islam did not make a move even when the situation was most critical between the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran. In Islamabad, the United States was supported by the reactionary Arab regimes in diverting attention from the U.S.-Iran conflict. By shifting attention to the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, it has tried to cover up a permanent U.S. presence and, not least, aggressive U.S. concepts.

[Question] In other words: It is to be feared that, through the Afghan issue, Arab reaction would divert attention from other urgent problems, including the Palestinian situation?

[Answer] We can already see numerous signs of that. Hardly were the announcements regarding a Syrian troop withdrawal made, when Israeli reconnaisance and military activity against southern Lebanon was intensified. I cannot say that the sensitivity of the Islamic world has been greatly taxed by the evidently increasing dangers. At the same time, the pressure to induce us Palestinians to accept our own Camp David is increasing. I can state on behalf of the Palestinian movement--and mainly, of course, on behalf of the Palestinian People's Liberation Front--that we say a million times "no" to Camp David, a million times "no" to autonomy. We are not satisfied with anything less than genuine and full self-determination. In the struggle to found a state we will continue to rely on the progressive Arab countries, the revolutionary movements of the world and, primarily, the Soviet Union and the rest of the socialist countries.

[Question] Returning to the first question: Do you then mean that 1980 will not be the "year of Lebanon?"

[Answer] Certainly not in the sense that Chamoun meant it. However, I hope that we will soon live to see the year that will be called by history "the year of Palestine."

BAHRAIN

DEFENSE MINISTER RETURNS AFTER VISIT TO IRAQ

NC281050 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1035 GMT 28 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Manama, 28 February--His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the Bahraini heir apparent and defense minister, returned to Manama from Baghdad at noon today after a 2-day visit to Iraq.

In a statement on his return, his highness praised the results of his visit, saying that he and Iraqi officials discussed bilateral relations and issues of concern to the two countries and to the region in general.

The Bahraini heir apparent affirmed that views were identical on all issues discussed, saying: We look upon the future of the region with all confidence and assurance. In conclusion, he praised the present renaissance in various fields in Iraq and wished the Iraqi Government and people further progress and prosperity.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON ARAB AFFAIRS

LD271334 Kuwait KUNA in English 1148 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 27 (KUNA)--Kuwait would welcome the establishment of a Gulf military industry with assistance from France, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said here Wednesday.

He said recent developments in the international platform will speed the realization of a Gulf unity. In an interview with AL-YAQAZAH newspaper which will be published Thursday, Shaykh Sabah expressed hope that an Arab conference will soon convene to endorse the national charter which was proposed by Iraq.

The deputy premier called for decisive action toward Egypt and expressed Kuwaiti rejection of providing any military facilities in the region.

Shaykh Sabah told the paper the Lebanese can solve their problems if they really want to do so. He called upon the conflicting factions in Lebanon to refrain from harming each other. The foreign minister praised France's just stand regarding the Arab cause, the paper said.

Shaykh Sabah described Gulf-Iranian relations as "based on solid grounds". Our major link is the Islamic religion, the foreign minister said. All Gulf states had supported the Iranian uprising under the leadership of Ayatollah Khomeyni in the face of injustice and terror, he said. Shaykh Sabah expressed the hope that the relations will become stronger and that stability will be realized in Iran after the election of Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr as president of the republic.

The problem of the U.S. hostages in Tehran will soon be solved, he added. We hope the Iranians will realize their just rights, and the hostages will return safe, Shaykh Sabah told the paper.

The deputy premier affirmed Kuwait's acceptance of the proposed Iraqi national charter. It represents an Arab hope for stronger ties, he added.

Commenting on the diplomatic exchange between Egypt and Israel, Shaykh Sabah said the Arabs should take drastic steps in the face of this challenge and defiance directed against the Arab nation in Egypt and elsewhere.

Shaykh Sabah called for the Gulf region to be kept out of international struggles. The region should not be exploited under any banners, he said.

Information available from Oman indicates that the facilities provided did not include military bases. This is a matter which concerns the sultanate, he said.

Shaykh Sabah said the visit of President Giscard d'Estaing will cover bilateral relations and the latest developments in the region. He will also discuss the situation in Lebanon and provocations against the Palestinians, he added. We will ask France to convey the just cause of the Arabs to Europe, Shaykh Sabah said.

KUNA EXECUTIVE HOLDS DIALOG WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS

LD271311 Kuwait KUNA in English 1011 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, Feb 27 (KUNA)--A Soviet source said here the USSR is not after the Arabs' oil.

He said Soviet intervention in Afghanistan was to off-set American attempts to threaten Moscow. The United States was planning to foil the revolution in Iran, he added.

The Soviet source warned against U.S. intentions to dominate the Gulf region and its oil resources.

Meanwhile, another Soviet spokesman outlined the policies of Moscow towards the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

The two spokesmen, Malkoviskiy and Kodriavitsov, are members of the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity. Malkoviskiy is a member in the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party in charge of Soviet relations with the Arab Peninsula. Kodriavitsov is a member of the Supreme Soviet and deputy chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

The statements were made in a dialogue with the director-general of KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY Birjis Hammud al-Birtis who was recently in Moscow.

Birjis told Soviet officials the Afro-Asian solidarity movement should play a more active role in the political, economic and cultural fields. There are poor countries in Africa and oppressed nations in Asia who need assistance, Birjis said. He questioned the role of the Soviet solidarity committee towards the homeless Palestinians and the hunger-stricken people of Cambodia.

Kodriavitsov said development in Africa and Asia can only be realized through the struggle against all norms of imperialism and racial discrimination, including that of Zionists.

Afro-Asians and oil producers should fight for economic liberation, he said.

Kodriavitsov added the USSR had assisted the Palestinians to build an international image. Leaders of the PLO can describe better Soviet aid to their organization, he said.

The Soviet Union is maintaining good relations with the Cambodian people and is providing foodstuffs and medical assistance to them, he added.

Developing nations should fight for national liberation and should help in creating an international atmosphere for peace, Malkoviskiy said. He affirmed Soviet support for United Nations resolutions which condemned Zionism as a form of racial discrimination. "We do not consider Israel as part of the Arab Orient," he said.

Commenting on the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel, Malkoviskiy claimed it was a matter of conscience. We are restricting the immigration of those whose departure might affect the security of the state. Ordinary people are allowed to go, he added.

If the immigration of Soviet Jews might add to the capabilities of Israel, you better focus on the U.S., Europe and some Arab countries, he told the director-general of KUNA.

Birjis said since 1952 no Jews have immigrated from any Arab country to Israel. The U.S. is a known supporter of Israel, but we look upon the Soviet Union as a friend, Birjis said.

He added the Arabs are not against Jews as human beings. We oppose only the racialists and imperialist elements among them. We differenciate between Jews and Zionists and great efforts were made to explore the dangers of Zionism on the Jewish people themselves, Birjis told the Soviet officials.

The Palestinians were fighting bitterly since 1965, but the world has failed to realize the dimensions of their dilemma. The human conscience had died thirty years ago and the solidarity committee should activate that conscience, Birjis said.

Malkoviskiy said the majority of Soviet Jews are not planning to immigrate. We have been accused of racialism and "other things" when we restricted immigration to Israel. The same accusations were repeated when we allowed them to go, he added.

Birjis said there are Jews in Israel who now want to go back and explain things in the Soviet Union.

But Malkoviskiy said they will not be allowed to come back. They want to come because life is better here, he said.

Birjis told the Soviets the town of Odessa is named "mother of the Jews", and he wanted to know which town was their father. Malkoviskiy discarded the question as a joke and said Odessa is the mother of her residents. He said the Soviet Union is surrounded by over 300 American military bases--but we will not allow the United States to dominate the world.

PDRY

PRESIDENT ISMA'IL GIVES INTERVIEW TO AS-SIYASAH

LD271121 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il of South Yemen denied the presence of any Soviet forces or bases in his country. He stated that the talk about a Soviet military presence in Aden is aimed at making it possible for the United States to intervene in the Gulf region.

Isma'il, in a press interview with AS-SIYASAH, the first part of which is published today and the second to be published tomorrow, said that talk about the existence of Soviet naval and nuclear bases, reconnaissance aircraft and Soviet naval concentrations in South Yemen waters seeks to provide a justification for the United States to strengthen its military presence in the region with the aim of including it in its direct sphere of influence because of its oil interests. He added that those who reiterate these accusations against South Yemen "are well aware that American imperialism, with its ships and naval forces, is keeping vantage over the oil of the region, and it has decided on this without any consideration for the sovereign rights of the countries of the region."

Isma'il said that the "claims" made about the Kremlin's designs on the oil regions "are nothing but a card being used by American imperialism to continue its plunder of the oil resources and exploitation of its revenue. This card comes under the heading of hostility toward communism and the Soviet Union and of designs against the countries of the oil region, with the knowledge that the Soviet Union is regarded as one of the largest oil producers in the world and its national economy is not in need of the region's oil."

The president of South Yemen defended the friendship treaty which he signed with Soviet leaders in Moscow last year. He said: It is not directed against any country in the region "and we do not intend to use this treaty as a source of threat or aggression against any country or regime." He called on the countries of the region to remove all doubts troubling them about his country's intentions because of its links with the Soviet Union and to direct criticism "against those closely linked with the United States and those who boast of this relationship, knowing as they do the degree of friendship which links America with aggressive Israel."

Isma'il welcomed any collective action by the countries of the region aimed at keeping it out of international conflicts and from facing dangers threatening it "which have become clear and known to all." However, he pointed out that such a collective action "first of all demands that the enemy should be pinpointed, that the forces which will be hurt by the enemy's stick should be pinpointed and that the friends of the peoples of this region who stand on the side of sovereignty, independence and social progress should be pinpointed."

Isma'il strongly denied the existence of a South Yemen-Afghan-Ethiopian axis or the presence of any of his country's forces in Afghanistan to help the Marxist regime there. He said the aim of such talk "is to create a justification for the counterforces to plot against Democratic Yemen, to continue the campaigns against its independence and sovereignty and to give full justification for U.S. intervention in the internal affairs of the region." He said his country supports the new regime in Kabul which was installed with the help of the Soviet Union at the end of last year.

Isma'il said Aden has no objection to holding a dialog with the Sultanate of Oman to discuss the tense relations between the two neighboring countries. He pointed out that efforts were made with the purpose of holding a meeting between the two countries at an official level, but he did not clarify the results of these efforts or whether they will result in such a meeting being held.

He said that relations between his country and its neighbor, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, are suffering "coolness, not tension." However, he added that his country is endeavoring to establish normal relations between the two countries "based on good will, dialog, respect and cooperation beneficial to the two peoples." The South Yemen president added that he will pay a prearranged visit, which has already been postponed twice, to Saudi Arabia when Saudi officials have made the necessary arrangements for it.

He expressed his hope that a similar coolness in relations between his country and Iraq will end "in order to provide the chance to develop relations in the interests of both peoples and in the interests of the Arab nation's struggle." Relations between the two countries deteriorated following Aden's accusations that officers of the Iraqi intelligence service last summer killed an Iraqi communist professor who worked at Aden University.

Isma'il said that there is a common desire between his country and Iran to establish diplomatic relations. However, he added that the problems facing Iran led his country to postpone efforts being made in this context. He expressed the support of South Yemen for the Islamic regime in Iran and its demand to hand over the former shah and its confrontation of American "threats."

Further Details

LD281118 Kuwait KUNA in English 1025 GMT 28 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, February 28, KUNA--South Yemeni President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il accused the U.S. of hampering unity efforts between the two parts of Yemen.

He told AS-SIYASAH and its English language daily the ARAB TIMES Thursday that "it is the American reactionary imperialists and their allies in the region who do not want the Yemeni people to unite," but at the same time he said the Soviet Union has supported unity efforts between the two Yemens since 1962.

President Isma'il added that these imperialist forces were responsible for bloody battles between the two Yemens in 1972 and 1979 and that they are still working for undermining unity between the north and the south of Yemen.

Despite all these conspiracies and plots, he said, the Yemeni people are determined to achieve unification. He defended the signing of a friendship treaty with the Soviet Union and refuted allegations that this had been motivated by lack of aid from the Arab oil producing countries.

Isma'il, who is the secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, added that the Soviet Union has proven to be a true friend for his country by helping develop its economy and defend its sovereignty.

He denied that his country's relations with the Arab oil countries have cooled down and said efforts are being made to improve these relations and participate in the stability of the region. He stressed, however, that South Yemen would resist "pressures and plots against the Yemeni people to make them sell their sovereignty and revolutionary principles for inducements."

If you mean the oil price hikes, there is no doubt that you are aware that we are exerting all our efforts in order to prevent a big jump in prices that would harm the world economy of which we are a part. There is no doubt that we are negatively affected by whatever negatively affects it [the world economy]. Our aim is not to benefit the Russians or to harm the West.

But the matter of pricing is linked to many considerations, including, for example, the frightful increase in the cost of services which the West offers us, the cost of industrial goods and increasing inflation. I believe that the West must be called upon to exert great efforts in order to readjust the course of the world economy with regard to the dollar rate, inflation, and the cost of goods and services so that we will be able to continue playing our moderating role in controlling oil prices. In the meantime the West must work in order to diversify the sources of energy.

[Question] Do you believe that the Islamic revival and the liberation trends that are emerging in the Islamic territories may have an impact on the 50 million Muslims who live under Russian occupation?

[Answer] I believe that I have already answered this question. One explanation of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan is that it is due to the danger the Islamic revolution poses to the Soviet Union because of its influence on the Muslims in its southern part. In any case, freedom is the demand of every man wherever he may be and the aspiration for freedom in man cannot be suppressed.

SAUDI ARABIA

INFORMATION MINISTER DENIES RUMORS OF INSTABILITY

LD272100 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2010 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Minister of Information Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani has commented on rumors spread by certain sources in London financial and commercial markets about the kingdom and reported by AFP. He said that all these rumors were totally unfounded and fabricated.

His excellency revealed the aims behind the spreading of such rumors by certain circles and explained that these circles were trying to benefit from the confusion of rumors and their effect with regard to tricking those dealing in the gold market, whether sellers or buyers, and that this is regrettable. In conclusion, his excellency emphasized that the kingdom, as everyone knows, enjoys total security and stability and that this alone is sufficient to answer all these tendentious rumors.

KING RECEIVES PRINCES, MINISTERS IN HOSPITAL 27 FEB

LD271134 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1025 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this morning at King Faysal specialist hospital received a number of their royal highnesses the princes and their excellencies the ministers and a group of citizens. The doctors have said that his majesty's health is improving continuously and is satisfactory, God be praised. May God grant his majesty good health and strength.

AMIR FAHD DISCUSSES DOMESTIC SITUATION, MIDEAST EVENTS

LD261445 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 23 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Interview granted by Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Amir Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to Paris LE FIGARO magazine Correspondent Robert Lacontre published jointly with LE FIGARO--date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Is there a possiblity of an explosion of the Iranian type occurring in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom or the UAE?

[Answer] I do not know on what basis this question is being posed or what similarity there is between the method of rule under the previous Iranian regime and that in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom.

I believe that there is a great self-evident truth, namely that the present Iranian Revolution has come about on an Islamic basis and calls for rule on Islamic principles. This is the basis which has actually existed in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom since it was established and to this day. The kingdom has never ceased implementing Islamic law and applying its rules. Also, the relationship between the Saudi people and the authorities is one of amity and kinship and even of family cohesion. The doors of those in power in the kingdom are always open to the people. Also, the Saudi Government always seeks to do what is good for the people and is working earnestly to satisfy all their demands and needs. Reform programs have never stopped since the late King 'Abd al-'Aziz united the kingdom's regions.

One of the wellknown traditions in the kingdom is that the king always devotes certain days of the week to receiving the ulemas and members of the public in order to consolidate the ties of amity, to exchange views, to learn about any suggestions or demands and to listen to any remarks. Moreover, the kingdom is in the course of implementing new development programs for further reforms in various fields.

[Question] Is there or is there not a possibility of a Khomeyni-style revolutionary tide occurring? Were the Mecca incidents not a kind of a stern warning?

[Answer] I believe that my first answer is an answer to the first part of this question.

As for the second part, it is known that the perpetrators of the Holy Mosque incidents were a group of misled people who attacked God's holy place, hindered worship and violated the holiest of holies. Therefore, there is no question of comparing these incidents with those in Iran. The fact that the Holy Mosque incidents were met with resistance and strong denunciation by the Saudi people is sufficient evidence that such comparison is totally wrong. This has shown the depth of the people's loyalty and adherence to the ruling family and the great sympathy with the authorities. There are many reports showing the Saudi people's participation with the authorities in crushing the sedition and their sacrifices to this end.

[Question] Do you not think that the Soviet Union is behind all progressive or reactionary movements in an attempt to spread instability in the Gulf?

[Answer] The Afghanistan events have proved that the Soviet Union has long-term objectives in the area. It is always in the interest of those who attempt to interfere in other countries' affairs to spread instability and social, political and ideological disturbances in order to create for themselves an opportunity to intervene. But we in this country have strong beliefs and ancient values and traditions. We have no need to import slogans and principles. Obviously, our answer to attempts to spread instability rests on persistent work to spread political, social and economic stability and to resist alien and subversive principles.

[Question] Does not the presence of 2 million [presumably foreign] workers in your country pose a danger? It is said that the South Korean workers, whose numbers range between 100,000 and 120,000, could be used as mercenary soldiers? What is your opinion on this?

[Answer] The foreigners in our country are here to participate in implementing our plans. We do not think that they constitute a danger to security, if this is what you mean.

With regard to the negative effect this may have on the customs and traditions of which we are proud, there might be some effect. But we are confident that our people's adherence to their traditions and religion are capable of negating and neutralizing such influence.

We ask all those who live among us to abide by our traditions and to preserve them. We find a total response in this regard, except in some cases which we deal with promptly.

With regard to the second part of your question, it is an established fact that we do not need any mercenary soldiers from any place or of any nationality.

Our people, thank God, are capable of defending themselves and their country. The number of volunteers in the armed forces from our people exceed our needs. Every person in this country is prepared to do all he can for the sake of the religion, the king and the country.

[Question] How do you Saudis, who are devoutly religious and regard atheist Marxism as Satan, explain the adoption by Islamic states like Syria, Iraq and Algeria of the Soviet Union as their protector? Is there no contradiction here?

[Answer] We are against communism because our religion rejects it and because we do not see any good in it in any field of human work. But we do not interfere in others' affairs nor try to impose options on them. As far as we know, our brothers try to differentiate between communism as a social doctrine and political cooperation with any state.

[Question] Is this not the case in Lebanon where the Syrians, who are occupying that country, and the Palestinians are being manipulated by Moscow?

[Answer] Syria with its armed forces is present in Lebanon within the Arab deterrent forces which have been agreed upon and are financed by the other Arab states within the framework of the Arab League. You might have noticed that Syria's announcement to withdraw from certain areas in Lebanon has encountered Lebanese and Arab attempts to make it cancel or defer its decision. This confirms what I have told you--that Syria is present in Lebanon at the wishes of the legitimate authority and overall Arab wishes.

Why do you say that the Palestinians are motivated by Moscow? They have a right and they demand support for this right from whoever is prepared to give it. Why do we not give them their legitimate right first and then see what happens?

[Question] Incidentally, you received Yasir 'Arafat recently. Has the Palestinian leader not made a mistake by relying to a great extent on the Soviet Union? Meanwhile, what role is Habash [secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine] playing?

[Answer] I again say that the injustice to which the Palestinians have been subjected by Israel, which is backed by the United States and the West in general, left them with no choice but to ask for help from wherever they can get it. If we wish to help in containing communism and alien influence in the area we must solve the Palestinian problem in a just and comprehensive manner so that no one may find himself compelled to request help from sides which we fear might influence our principles. Do not put the cart before the horse. Communism finds its way to the area only if oppression, injustice and aggression exist. I am confident that if we achieve justice, all the specters that perturb us will vanish. As for the second part of your question, we are against the policy of extremism and terrorism whatever its source.

[Question] In your view, what is the way to solve the Palestinian problem?

[Answer] There is only one way to solve the Palestinian problem, namely, the restoration to the Palestinian people of their full legitimate national rights, including, of course, their right to self-determination and to live securely like all peoples, within an independent homeland. Division is useless. Circumvention of this clear right would complicate things and would not resolve anything.

[Question] Is the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan--which is an Islamic country--aimed at encircling the Gulf and Pakistan as other Islamic countries?

[Answer] There has been much talk about the motives behind the invasion of Afghanistan. Some say that its aim is to contain the Islamic revolution in both Afghanistan and Iran so that it will not influence the Muslims in the southern part of the Soviet Union, who are estimated to number about 50 million. Others say that the aim is to jump a step in the direction of the warm waters of the Indian Ocean through either Pakistan or Iran which have ports on the ocean. There are also those who say that the aim is the oil in Iran or in the other Gulf states. Maybe it is for all these reasons put together, because the step that the Soviets have taken, by which they have endangered detente and its gains, must have several reasons and motives.

As far as we are concerned, the question does concern us and affects us directly in both the Islamic and oil respects and also in terms of its dangers to world peace.

For this reason we called the Islamic states to meet in Islamabad because the recent Soviet step has led to the occupation of an Islamic country and is endangering other Islamic states. Therefore, it was imperative for these states to meet to discuss the matter and adopt joint measures to confront the present danger which can no longer be concealed.

[Question] Does the Soviet military buildup or occupation in South Yemen and in Aden constitute a direct threat to you?

[Answer] We believe that the force of any Arab state is for the benefit of the nation and the common Arab issues, but if this force is meant to threaten neighbors or any other Arab state, that is a matter which we cannot accept or ignore.

[Question] In view of the undoubtful impossibility of defending the oil wells and the many scattered pipelines will you, in the event of an attack, ask for help from a foreign power?

[Answer] We depend on ourselves in defending our people and interests. We do not think that a situation will come about in which we would ask for help from a foreign power. But we certainly do ask our friends to boost our strength through supplies of modern weapons that would enable us to repel any aggression against us. We do not need forces from anybody but we are buying the arms that we need. In this regard we are ready to diversify our weapons in order to benefit from every friendly effort in this field.

[Question] Recently you met with President Carter's adviser Brzezinski. Do you think the United States has finally decided to place obstacles in the path of Soviet intervention or is it only working for election propaganda?

[Answer] I believe that the U.S. stand is clear and we have no reason to doubt it. I do not think that a basic strategy such as the strategy of resisting Soviet influence could be mere election propaganda or be subject to its considerations.

[Question] Do you intend to diversify your technology sources or your arms purchases and to request them from countries other than the United States?

[Answer] We are trying to obtain technology and weapons from all friendly countries willing to cooperate with us. In this regard we have advanced relations with the European countries which participate in the implementation of our development plans.

[Question] On the eve of French Prime Minister Raymond Barre's arrival [in Saudi Arabia], do you expect France to have a special role that it could play in the Gulf and the Middle East?

[Answer] Yes, France has a major role on the grounds that it is one of the basic European powers and has great political and economic influence. It also has advanced technology which we are trying to obtain from all friends. We attach great hopes to France's role in reaching a just and comprehensive solution for the Palestinian problem in cooperation with the European Community.

[Question] Do you realize that the oil crisis benefits the Russians in weakening the powers and then in weakening you?

[Answer] What do you mean by the oil crisis? With regard to production, our production in the past few months, as has been declared and as is known, has increased. Oil is now abundantly available in the world markets.

INFORMATION MINISTER ON HOSTILE PROPAGANDA, GULF SECURITY

LD271617 Doha AR-RAYAH in Arabic 14 Feb 80 pp 1, 11 LD

[Interview granted by Saudi Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani to Chief Editor Nasir al-'Uthman and Managing Editor Raja' an-Naqqash in Doha--date not given]

[Excerpts] His Excellency Saudi Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani has made an important statement to AR-RAYAH in which he spoke about the conference of Gulf states ministers of information which ended the day before yesterday. The minister also spoke about reports on the establishment of military bases in Aden. He said there are not and never will be any foreign military bases in Saudi Arabia because it does not believe in alliances and axes.

Speaking about his impressions of the conference of Gulf states information ministers, at which he represented Saudi Arabia, Dr Yamani said: I can say frankly and not just for form's sake that the conference was extremely successful. It was marked by a high level of organization and by the clarity of the objectives we want to achieve. The effective management performed by His Excellency Qatari Information Minister brother 'Isa al-Kuwari was the major contribution to the success of the conference.

He continued: What is important in this subject is that we now speak a single language. We want the public to understand that as Arab Gulf states we will continue to shoulder our responsibilities fully and we will continue to play our role. We would like the others not to blame us for negativism for which we are not to blame nor seek to distort our image, as is being done at present. Despite our many positive contributions to serving human civilization, our enemies are conducting tendentious propaganda against us that is hurting us. But this propaganda will not dissuade us from continuing to play our role. This propaganda unfortunately originates in part from certain Arab countries and it is hurting the Arab nation itself. This situation is wrong and must not continue.

The new language with which we speak says: Henceforth we will not remain silent and we will not accept any distortion of our image. In the past we were courteous and did not want to get involved in any disputes or enmities. But now in our declaration, which we called "the Doha declaration", we made it clear that we will not remain silent over this kind of distortion because it hurts us and because, to say the least, it does not serve national objectives in any way.

Speaking about what is being reiterated by hostile propaganda media about the establishment of foreign military bases in Saudi Arabia, Dr Yamani said: Most unfortunately, this is part of something from which we are suffering daily and is the reason we have come to call ourselves "ministers of information and denial." This is because we are daily compelled to deny such reports about military bases and other similar things.

For example, a statement which some news agencies today attributed to U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown to the effect that Saudi Arabia has agreed to stockpile U.S. arms in Saudi Arabia is in fact false. Saudi Arabia does not work in secret; our policy is open and clear. We have asserted more than once that we will not allow the establishment of any form of military bases in our country and we do not believe in alliances and axes.

We are a nation that works openly and that declares its policy; we take no steps in secret. There are no bases in our countries, American or otherwise, and there will never be such bases. I am also pained that the same is now also being said about Oman as well as about other Gulf states which, in fact, is not true. Today I met with the Omani information minister and I spoke to him about the matter. He was pained by the distorted things being said about us all.

I say that these reports are part of a tendentious campaign against us and part of the misunderstanding about the area.

Speaking about reports that French and other foreign forces took part with the Saudi forces in purging the mutineers from the Holy Mosque, Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said: This is a complete fabrication and I am glad that the French defense minister denied it the day before yesterday. We also issued a statement denying it. We have made it clear that no foreign forces participated with us and that the reason for the delay in crushing the mutiny was because we were dealing with the matter extremely carefully since it involved the Holy Mosque, for which all Muslims of the world feel concern. If we had made a mistake in the use of certain weapons, we would have risked the destruction of the Holy Ka'bah.

Speaking about the question of "Gulf security," Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said: I do not understand where they produced the idea that Gulf security is in danger. The Gulf, thank God, is secure; its security stems from its people and from the laws we apply and which we derive from the magnanimous creed. We want others to stop fearing for the Gulf; we do not want interference that would turn the Gulf into an arena of international conflict. We, thank God, are quite capable of defending ourselves because we live under stable regimes whose stability is derived from the close link between the citizens and the rulers. We harbor no enmity toward anybody.

If anything beyond our capabilities should happen, then God almighty is above all. Those who continuously speak about Gulf security and Gulf alliances know our policy. We are a nation that will continue to fulfill its duty in a manner that, God willing, needs no assistance from others. We do not need anybody to protect our country or our area, nor are we in need of military alliances for this purpose.

Speaking about developments in Afghanistan, Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said: The Saudi Arabian Kingdom, as you are aware, is always concerned to have its work being based on collective action. It joins hands with its sisterly Islamic states and the Gulf states. Saudi Arabia does not like to act individually. The question of Afghanistan concerns us all as Muslims and Arabs as well as Gulf states. It concerns us as Muslims because Afghanistan is an Islamic state against which an unjustified aggression has been committed. It also concerns us as Arabs because that Islamic nation adopted an honorable stand with us in our Arab cause. It is our duty today to stand with it. It also concerns us as Gulf states because this Soviet intervention has reached the approaches to our countries. The Soviet Union must realize that such a thing is not acceptable. The world must realize that we are now facing a new kind of aggression and hateful colonization that has swallowed up a country overnight.

We will continue our support for Afghanistan in cooperation with the sisterly Islamic and Arab states, and particularly here in the Gulf area. We will continue such support and resort to every means possible to help those Muslims to regain their rights, to end the harm that has been done to them, and to expose this crime which is considered to be the ugliest of the century.

RIYADH COMMENTATOR ON U.S. TRUST, SOVIET GAINS

LD271529 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Hashim Abduh Hashim commentary]

[Excerpt] The Soviet Union has capitalized on U.S. slowness in many developments and has scored important strategic gains in line with its expansionist dreams in this world. Possibly the first trouble facing the Americans in their attempt to realize the policy of detente with the Soviet Union is their exceptional trust in the Russian bear's friendship and desire to establish total peace and sound stability in the world. This absolute trust in the detente friend exposes two important facts: First, the Soviet Union looks at detente with the eyes of one who benefits from stilling other forces or weakening their influence in the military and political arenas; second, factors such as the shortage of information, on the one hand, and the diversification of attention, on the other hand, reflect an involvement of world forces in practice that serve not world peace but only limited aims and specific designs.

It is wrong for us to consider the conflict between the two major powers from the angle of comparability between their means and resources; we in the Arab region should take a cautious approach toward all powers, prompted by full awareness and infinite sense that our regions should continue to be completely outside their playing field.

His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in his important interview with NEWSWEEK magazine, said it could not be excluded that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan could be repeated elsewhere unless the Soviets are confronted by a firm international stance and a world rallying that foils their plans.

Yes, the danger has not been removed. The possibility of the Afghan tragedy recurring in any part of the world persists. What happened there is not the last of Soviet designs, but a new springing point on the map of world tensions--caused by the unlawful pouncing by this major power on a strategic position.

BRIEFS

NEW PDRY SECURITY OFFICIAL--Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad today issued a Council of Minister's decree appointing 'Ali Mansur Rashid deputy chief of the state security commission. [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD/EA]

AUTONOMY TALKS UNDERWAY IN THE HAGUE

Ghali Arrives

NC271232 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1223 GMT 27 Feb 80 NC

[Text] The Hague, 27 February--Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, arrived in The Hague from Paris this afternoon to participate in the Palestinian autonomy negotiations.

Khalil, Linowitz Meet

NC271305 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and leader of the U.S. side to the autonomy discussions, Sol Linowitz, held a 3-hour meeting at the Kurhaus Hotel in The Hague this morning. They discussed topics related to the jurisdictions and prerogatives of the Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza as well as the measures connected with speeding up the holding of elections to form the Palestinian body which will assume the duties of autonomy in accordance with the Camp David documents.

Linowitz Presents New Ideas

NC272042 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2005 GMT 27 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpt] The Hague, 27 February--It has been learned that during his 3-hour meeting this morning with Dr Mustafa Khalil, Egyptian prime minister and foreign minister and the head of the Egyptian delegation to the autonomy negotiations, U.S. Middle East Envoy Sol Linowitz presented several new ideas. It has also been learned that the Egyptian delegation is currently studying these ideas and that it will express its opinion on them during the tripartite working dinner this evening and the meetings tomorrow.

Egyptian Sources on Meeting

NC271930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1834 GMT 27 Feb 80 NC

[Text] The Hague, 27 February--Egyptian sources have stated that during the 3-hour meeting today between Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and Sol Linowitz, the U.S. envoy to the Palestinian autonomy talks, both sides completely reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East. These sources said that both sides emphasized the importance of 26 May as the date on which elections must start and the military government must end in the West Bank and Gaza. The sources added that both sides also emphasized the importance of intensifying the efforts to overcome the differences in views.

The heads of the three delegations are scheduled to meet this evening at a working dinner during which they will continue discussing developments in the autonomy negotiations.

It has also been learned that during the 2-hour meeting yesterday between Dr Mustafa Khalil and Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, they reviewed international developments, the situation in the Middle East and the latest developments in the autonomy negotiations. Dr Mustafa Khalil put the Austrian chancellor in the picture regarding developments in the Middle East peace process.

Egyptian sources have stated that Chancellor Kreisky expressed interest in the need for the negotiations to go ahead in order to achieve results before 24 May. Both sides also agreed to continue their consultations.

ROSE AL-YUSUF ASSAILS CHOICE OF BEN-ELISAR AS CAIRO AMBASSADOR

LD271027 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 25 Feb 80 p 10 LD

[Dr 'Abd al-'Azim Ramadan article: "Hours Before the Presentation of Credentials: No to Israel's Ambassador"]

[Text] The statements made in Jerusalem recently by Israeli ambassador-designate to Egypt, Elyahu Ben-Elisar in support of the policy of establishing Israeli settlements on the West Bank and the right of the Jews to settle in it do not, we believe, contribute to the establishment of sound Egyptian-Israeli relations, for the simple reason that this policy is completely rejected and condemned by Cairo.

Elyahu Ben-Elisar attacked the U.S. chief UN delegate Donald McHenry's statements that this policy could lead to an attempt to amend Resolution 242. Ben-Elisar said that he cannot really understand why the U.S. administration should have the right to tell the Israeli Government where the Jews can or cannot settle.

On this basis, we can assume two things: Either the Israeli ambassador-designate to Cairo does not really understand, or he understands but pretends not to. In either case, his statements indicate that he will not be able to perform in Cairo his task of building bridges of understanding and confidence between the two countries, on a sound basis compatible with the foundations of a comprehensive and just settlement that will lead up to the solution of the Palestinian problem.

If Cairo has accepted an Israeli ambassador as part of the peace process while working to achieve a comprehensive and just peace, it needs an ambassador who has an open mind and liberal thinking and who understands the requisites of the historical phase through which Egyptian-Israeli relations are passing. There is no doubt that Israel has people of this type who are suitable for the coming phase--those who publicly reject and condemn Begin's policy.

It makes no sense for an Israeli politician like Moshe Dayan to make statements describing the Israeli Government decision as "a serious and grave mistake" which "raises a big question mark about our intentions," and then for the Israeli ambassador-designate to Cairo, who is supposed to be an instrument of good contacts, to fervently defend the Israeli Government's adventurist policy, which is strongly condemned by Cairo, and going so far as pretending to be surprised and unable to understand. And, furthermore, he denounces the unfounded American objection to this policy, despite the fact that this objection did not go beyond ink on paper and a few spoken workds. Does Cairo really need a predatory hawk like Elyahu Ben-Alisar?

When Elyahu Ben-Alisar denies the U.S. right to denounce the Israeli policy settlements on the West Bank, he is showing ingratitude. This raises a big question mark. If the Israeli ambassador denies the U.S. role in establishing the State of Israel on Arab territory, does he also deny the U.S. funds that have been enabled Israel to withstand the Arab boycott. Does he deny the flow of U.S. arms into Israel--the arms that enabled it not only to confront Arab resistance but also to commit aggression and to expand at the expense of its Arab neighbobs.

If Elyahu Ben-Elisar can deny the U.S. generosity to which the Israeli entity owes its existence, survival and expansion, can he deny that the United States rescued Israel from defeat and destruction in the October 1973 war by the well-known American arms airlift? Does he deny U.S. political support for Israel against all the Arab states? Moreover, does he deny the U.S. signing of the Camp David agreements, which Israel is trying to shirk, and the U.S. role as a full partner in these agreements, according to the terms used by the parties concerned?

If Elyahu Ben-Elisar denies these facts or cannot conceive them, and if this is his mentality and political concept of the elements and dimensions of the conflict in the Arab area, may we in turn tell him that he is completely incapable of understanding the prerequisites of this phase and is completely unsympathetic to the peace efforts being made in the area, which were initiated by President as-Sadat on his visit to Jerusalem.

INA ON ANTI-AS-SADAT DEMONSTRATIONS IN QINA PROVINCE

JN271416 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 27 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Beirut, 27 February--reports from Egypt indicate that popular demonstrations in Qina Province again broke out today protesting the exchange of diplomatic representation between the As-Sadat and Zionist regimes.

The reports said that the demonstrators chanted slogans against As-Sadat's regime and his capitulationist policy. The demonstrators called for the expulsion of the Zionist ambassador. They also raised placards expressing the Egyptian people's rejection of the policy of subservience to Zionism and imperialism and their determination to continue the struggle until Egypt is returned to the pan-Arab fold.

The reports pointed out that As-Sadat's repressive organs have been launching widescale arrest campaigns against the nationalist movement's ranks since 1 February. Qina Province has been the scene of violent demonstrations against the decision to normalize the Egyptian-Zionist relations and the treasonous policy.

The reports said that a force of the intelligence and central security apparatus has stormed the premises of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping [NPUG] Party in the province and confiscated the party's leaflets. The force arrested a large number of the party's members and supporters.

The reports added that a similar force has stormed the party spokesman's house and attacked his father. The reports said that organized oppressive campaigns are being launched against the party members on charges of instigating the citizens against As-Sadat and his treasonous policy.

The intensification of the oppressive campaign against the Province of Qina, which is known for its struggle against As-Sadat's regime, comes as a precuationary measure to head off any possible eruption of uprisings similar to those which took place on 18 and 19 January 1977.

It is to be recalled that the Egyptian progressive and nationalist forces have issued statements denouncing the normalization of relations and rejecting the treason against the Arab nation and the Palestinian issue.

ASH-SHA'B: PRESSURE ISRAELIS ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE

LD271207 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 19 Feb 80 P 3 LD

[Brahim Shukri article: "Peace Battles Call for Popular Participation on the Largest Scale"]

[Excerpts] In my article last week I called on the people and drew their attention to the need to know how to act in dealing with Israel and its fanatic Zionist Prime Minister Begin, whose latest contribution to hindering the autonomy talks was the provocative decision to allow Israelis to settle in the Arab town of Hebron. Even the most extreme of past Israeli rulers never considered such a decision. This has prompted Dayan, their former foreign minister and commander of their army in the 1967 war, to warn of the gravity of this step and to call for speedier abolition of military rule in the West Bank and Gaza as a good will gesture. UN Secretary General Waldheim also expressed his dismay at the decision to colonize Hebron.

This is as far as Dayan and Waldheim are concerend. Their stand is definitely unlike that of our officials, for we find that the statements made by Dr Mustafa Khalil and others in response to this action were not up to this level. Rather, we see that things are going on as if nothing had happened and as if the Israeli government decision had nothing to do with the steps taken for the exchange of diplomatic representation. The Israeli change d'affaires arrived in Cairo 2 days ago and at an inauguration ceremony, described as "simple," was held. In the meantime the higher committee for normalization is carrying on its work with fervor and enthusiasm.

Should there not be a more effective and serious reaction than statements which the Israeli side will not heed or be influenced by? Do not those responsible for our affairs think that the idea of speeding up normalization is not producing the desired results and rather causing the opposite?

Is it not surprising that we should be talking to Israel and declaring that it has been honorably and faithfully fulfilling its commitments, at a time when we are witnessing the undermining of the peace treaty spirit by attempts to erase the Arab character of Hebron, the repeated declarations about increasing efforts to expand existing settlements and doubling their number within 18 months, and the abolition of the Arab Electric Corporation of Jerusalem?

Moreover, there is the strange Israeli interpretation of the autonomy concept which says that it applies only to the inhabitants and not to the land or to its administrative institutions.

Our officials may have their own reasons for being content with polite statements in deploring these actions, but the people must shoulder their responsibility and express their anger over these matters and the government must not be upset by any call for doing so. Rather, it should call on its great party to discuss the matter and to take a a popular initiative to show the Egyptian people's denunciation of Israel's intransigent actions.

The first thing that the Israeli ambassador should be faced with is a manifestation in different ways of our anger about and denunciation of the attempts to deny the Palestinian people's right to establish a state of their own and of the heinous plan to continue with building settlements and erasing the Arab character of Arab towns, foremost of which is Jerusalem.

Petitions and telegrams from various factions of the people and from trade unions and organizations expressing such denunciation should be sent to the Israeli Embassy on the first day it begins its function.

Palestinian flags must be raised in the streets and on transport so that the Israelis, who now have official eyes in Cairo, realize that this problem is still outstanding between us.

They are grossly mistaken if they think that their withdrawal from our land and even the promise to complete withdrawal from Sinai before the scheduled time could substitute for the Palestinian right to establish a state of their own and to raise the Arab flag in Jerusalem.

Mr Begin should realize that in 1948 the Egyptian people fought for Palestine even when not an inch of Egyptian land was occupied. The people have not changed. If we have accepted the principle of peace, it does not mean that our thoughts regarding the position of Palestine have changed or that Jerusalem is no longer in our heart and conscience.

Last week I discussed the need to boycott Israeli goods and to shun any dealing with Israel as long as it continues its transgression, resorts to the same devious ways as it followed before the peace initiative, and denies the Palestinian people's right to establish their own state. Last Saturday the newspaper AKHBAR AL-YAWM, which is not an organ of the Socialist Labor Party, published an article by Sa'id Sunbul about the Israeli chocolate, tea and beer that have appeared in the Egyptian markets even before formal trade has begun between the two countries. The writer warned of smuggling and cheating.

Our call to boycott Israeli goods and culture as long as it refuses to accept the facts of the peace treaty as well as its spirit is legitimate. We did not fail to fulfill our pledges. It is they who are behaving shamelessly, as if telling us: "This is the status quo that we wish to impose, and whoever does not like it can go jump in the lake."

AKHIR SA'AH ON SOVIET MILITARY PRESENCE IN ADEN, ETHIOPIA

NC270711 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Feb 80 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] AKHIR SA'AH magazine today highlights reports indicating that the Soviets are reinforcing their military bases in Aden and in the northern part of the island of Socotra. AKHIR SA'AH adds that Moscow has sent new MiG-25 and MiG-23 squadrons as well as squadrons of offensive helicopters and bombers.

According to political reports, the magazine affirms that a strike force of Soviet submarines has been deployed near the coast of Aden, that a Soviet aircraft carrier has arrived in the area and that the number of Soviet pilots and military experts in Ethiopia and southern Yemen has doubled.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECIEVES BAHRAINI DEFENSE MINISTER

JN280810 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 28 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 February--President Saddam Husayn received Bahraini heir apparent and Defense Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa al-Khalifah at the Republican Palace this morning. During the meeting, bilateral relations and recent developments in the Arab arena were discussed, within the framework of coordinating the Arab stands in order to confront imperialist challenges.

The Bahraini minister expressed Bahrain's pride in Iraq's principled pan-Arab stands, which were embodied in President Saddam Husayn's national charter, announced on 18 February, and Iraq's continuous affirmation of Bahrain's security, independence and Arabism. The meeting was attended by RCC member and Defense Minister 'Adnan Khayrallah. The Bahraini heir apparent arrived in Baghdad yesterday on a 2-day visit to Iraq.

PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY LEAVES FOR MOROCCO, MAURITANIA

JN271504 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 27 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 February--A third Iraqi envoy left Baghdad this afternoon, this one bound for Morocco and Mauritania with messages from President Saddam Husayn to Moroccan King Hassan II and Mauritanian President Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala. The messages deal with the developments in the current Arab situation and with the national charter declared by President Saddam Husayn on 8 February to organize Arab relations.

In a predeparture statement, the Iraqi envoy, RCC member and Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, said that he will hold talks with the Moroccan and Mauritanian leaders on the means to solidify the contents of the national charter so that it will become a charter for a joint Arab action capable of confronting all challenges and plots concocted against the Arab nation and of taking the necessary measures to ascertain the Arab people's will for freedom and independence. 'Abd al-Karim pointed out that the implementation of the charter is bound to keep the Arab nation far from international conflicts and to achieve Arab solidarity and unity of ranks.

IRAQI-BANGLADESH PRESS STATEMENT REPORTED

JN271303 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 27 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 February--Iraq and Bangladesh have stressed the importance of developing and consolidating their relations in the service of the two countries' peoples. This came in a press statement issued here today following Bangladesh Vice President Justice Abdus Sattar's official 4-day visit to Iraq.

During the visit, Justice Abdus Sattar held talks with RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan on bilateral relations and ways to promote them in the interests of the peoples in the two countries and on the basis of mutual respect and benefit and nonintervention in domestic affairs.

The statement pointed out that the talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, also dealt with international and regional issues of common interest in light of recent world developments. Mr Taha Yasin Ramadan accepted an invitation by Justice Abdus Sattar to visit Bangladesh. The date of the visit will be set later.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN LEAVES FOR KUWAIT, QATAR, IRAQ

JN271249 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Feb 80 JN

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan left Amman for Kuwait at noon today on a tour during which he will visit Kuwait, Qatar and Iraq. The purpose of the tour is to bolster fraternal relations between Jordan and the three countries.

His highness the crown prince was seen off at Amman airport by Prime Minister His Excellency ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, the chief justice, his excellency the commander of the armed forces, his majesty's military secretary, several senior civilian and military officials, and the ambassadors of Kuwait, Qatar and Iraq in Amman.

His highness is accompanied by Transport Minister Engineer 'Ali as-Suhaymat; Dr Albert Butrus, director general of the Royal Scientific Society; Dr Basil Jirdanah, secretary general of the National Planning Council; and Muhammad 'Ali Budayr, president of the Union of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce.

AUSTRIAN DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES 27 FEB

JN271636 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Austrian National Defense Minister Otto Roesch arrived in Amman today at the head of a delegation on a visit of several days to Jordan. The Austrian delegation was received by commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, the air force commander, a number of senior officers and the Austrian ambassador in Amman.

COMMUNIQUE, JOINT DECLARATION ISSUED ON HUSAYN VISIT TO ROMANIA

For Bucharest SCINTEIA reportage on a communique and on a joint declaration on King Husayn's visit to Romania see the Romanian section of the 26 February Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES WEST BANK MAYORS

JN261933 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Prime Minister ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf received today the West Bank mayors of Nabulus, Bethlehem, Janin, Jericho, Bayt Sahur, Baytuniya, Dura and Halhul. The meeting was attended by Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state and head of the executive office in charge of occupied land affairs.

ISRAELI AGGRESSION AGAINST SYRIA REPORTEDLY 'IMMINENT'

LD271543 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT correspondent dispatch]

[Text] Damascus--Arab diplomatic sources in Damascus have described the situation on the Syrian-Israeli cease-fire line as "extremely serious", adding that a large-scale Israeli aggression against Syria is imminent.

The sources said that Syrian officials are convinced that Israel is preparing to launch a comprehensive attack to destroy Syria's steadfastness. The sources added that this matter will be on the agenda of the summit conference which the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front states intend to hold in Damascus next month. An agreement to convene the summit conference was reached during recent telephone conversations between President Hafiz al-Asad and his counterparts in the front which, in addition to Syria, comprises Libya, Algeria, South Yemen and the PLO.

Syrian official sources have reasserted that Syria is "determined to foil any imperialist-Zionist designs to undermine its steadfastness and is fully prepared to repulse any Israeli aggression and will not allow Israel to take the Arabs by surprise as it did in 1967."

It is worth noting that the PLO has also expressed its belief that Israel will soon launch a major aggression against Syria and the Palestinian resistance. The PLO has begun recruiting Palestinian and Arab youths in preparation for confronting any Israeli aggression.

Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has left for Kuwait as part of a tour especially to explain the current situation. Yasir 'Arafat [PLO Executive Committee chairman] has chaired several important military meetings during which decisions were made to prepare for repulsing any Israeli attack.

JAPANESE ENVOY SONODA ARRIVES 27 FEB

JN271655 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--Sunao Sonoda, former Japanese foreign minister and special envoy of the Japanese prime minister, arrived in Damascus at 1400 today on a visit of several days to Syria. During his visit, he will hold talks with Syrian officials on the current international situation in general and the latest developments in the region in particular, as well as on relations between Syria and Japan.

Meets Al-Kasm

JN272021 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received at 1800 today Sunao Sonoda, former Japanese foreign minister and envoy of the Japanese premier. Al-Kasm welcomed Sonoda and highlighted the benefits obtained by the two countries from such meetings.

Reviewing the main issues of interest to world public opinion, Premier al-Kasm explained the developments in this region of the world and the threats posed by the continuous and aggressive Israeli policy, a policy which is clear to the entire world and which prevents all attempts to establish a just peace in the region. Envoy Sonoda thanked the prime minister and stressed the importance of establishing just peace in the region. Also discussed in the meeting were bilateral relations and the means to develop these relations.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS INCIDENTS IN LATAKIA AREA

NC261313 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 26 Feb 80 NC

[Text] According to reports from northern Syria, and explosive charge went off last Sunday in the Regis building south of Latakia. No casualties have been reported. Material damages, however, are estimated at half a million Syrian pounds. The explosive charge contains an estimated 25 kg of dynamite.

This explosion was preceded by an earlier one on Saturday in a military car making its way on the Hamah-Latakia road. The 10 officers in the car were all hit. Two explosives went off on the same day in the national hospital and the nurses' school in Latakia. Only material damages were incurred.

ALGERIA

ALGERIAN, DPRK PARTIES SIGN PROTOCOL IN ALGIERS

LD271650 Algiers APS in English 1219 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Algiers, 27 February (APS)--The visit paid to Algeria by a delegation of the Korean People's Democratic Republic's Labour Party [KWP] was sanctioned by a protocol of accord between FLN and KWP, signed Tuesday on the Algerian side by Affane Guezzane, Politburo member, president of elected and elections' commission and on the Korean side by Kim Hwan, member of the Political Committee and secretary of KWP's Central Committee. The protocol plans the strengthening of relations and understanding between the two parties. A joint communique followed the signing of the protocol.

Delegation Departs

LD271732 Algiers APS in English 1600 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Algiers, 27 February (APS)--Korea Labour Party delegation left Algiers today after a week-long official visit here. In a declaration made at Moumediene airport, the head of the delegation expressed his satisfaction for his stay in Algiera. The Algerian people he said had realized big progress in all fields and strive hard for the implementation of industrial, agrarian and cultural revolution under the chairmanship of FLN Party. We have been very pleased and honoured to be received by President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general, and our talks with FLN coordinator Mohamed Yahiaoui have been very (?fruitful) and constructive.

He said also in conclusion that all Algerians he met expressed their total support for socialist construction and the urgent reunification of Korea.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH GISCARD'S REMARKS

LD271657 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] In a statement to JANA, the brother leader of the revolution expressed his satisfaction at the statement made by French President Giscard d'Estaing last night over French television in which he confirmed the withdrawal of the French forces from Tunisia and asserted that what happened in Tunisia was purely an internal development.

The brother leader also welcomed the French president's call to make the Mediterranean a sea of peace and stability. He affirmed that Libya will be the first to support such a call. He said that this statement in itself is sufficient to stop the deliberation on French intervention in Tunisia since this problem is now over. Moreover, he said, the possibilities of a grave confrontation with France, which did exist, are over. He added that there is no longer any objection to the French president's visit to the Arab Gulf countries, which he has planned.

In his statement the leader of the revolution stressed that the confrontation with the Tunisian regime is also over with the collapse of Hedi Nouira, who is considered a symbol of this regime, provided that he is replaced by the opposition government for the restoration of the fraternal relations between the two brotherly countries. He emphasized that the opposition government would work to open for the Tunisian people the road to progress and the unity of the peoples of the Arab nation and to keep foreign influence away from them.

The leader of the revolution concluded his statement by saying: If this is not achieved then I fear the escalation of the confrontation--this confrontation which is led by the revolutionary committees--with the Tunisian regime.

IRAQI TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI 27 FEB

LD271635 Tripoli JANA in English 1447 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Feb 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Mr. Hasan 'Ali, the member of the Iraqi Revolutionary Council and minister of trade has arrived in Tripoli at noon today as the special envoy of President Saddam Husayn, on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He was met at Tripoli international airport by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy Mr Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah, the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Tripoli and a representative of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Secretariat.

ARRIVAL OF ROMANIAN PRESIDENT'S ENVOY REPORTED

LD271936 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli--Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu's personal envoy Vasile Pungan arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

AL-HAWADITH: TERRORIST GROUPS TO LIQUIDATE AL-QADHDHAFI FOES

LD271633 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 22 Feb 80 p 22 LD

[Unattributed report: "'Mafia' for the Liquidation of Al-Qadhdhafi's Opponents Abroad"]

[Text] Last week an unidentified man described as Libyan-looking set fire to a bookshop in Park Lane, London, because it had been distributing a bulletin entitled "AL-JIHAD" published by the Libyan opposition. A number of distributors of this bulletin have also been threatened by unidentified persons. It has been said that a sum of money (estimated at 7,000 pounds sterling) has been paid to a newspaper distributor to dispose of the Arabic newspapers and magazines which criticize Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's regime.

According to information reaching the Libyan opposition, Al-Qadhdhafi's intelligence has agreed with several groups of international terrorists (Mafia) to liquidate Libyan opposition leaders. The revolutionary committees will provide these gangs with the necessary information to carry out their plans. This is being done in accordance with a recommendation--adopted by the revolutionary committees and published in one of the regime's newspapers called AL-JIHAD--providing for the physical liquidation of the regime's opponents in Europe. It is the first such decision that an offial authority has taken publicly and published in its newspapers, saying that it will liquidate its opponents abroad.

TUNISIA

OFFICIAL DENIES REPORTS ABOUT FRENCH TROOPS

LD271245 Kuwait KUNA in English 1008 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 27 (KUNA)--A high-ranking Tunisian official denied reports Wednesday that his country was backed by foreign troops when confronting the attack on the city of Qafsah, a Kuwaiti newspaper reported here.

The Tunisian official told "AL-ANBA" that all reports about the entry of French troops into Tunisia "at any time or for any reason" were mere allegations. We only asked for three French cargo military planes under a previous agreement between the two countries which it [as received] states that France is to supply Tunisia with these planes upon request," he said.

Tunisia had also requested help from Morocco which supplied her with two helicopters for carrying the troops needed to confront the attack, the official added.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RATIFIES INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

LD271728 Tunis TAP in English 1404 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tunis, Feb 27 (TAP)--In the course of a plenary meeting held Monday in Tunis, the Tunisian National Assembly (parliament) ratified four international agreements and conventions namely:

1--A convention adopted by the congress held Feb 2, 1971 in Ramser (Iran) relating to humid areas bearing an international importance (?particularly) areas having a concentration of waterfowls.

2--An agreement reached between the Tunisian and Belgian governments concerning the granting of a 50 million Belgian franc credit to Tunisia.

The refunding (in Belgian francs delay is of twenty years starting from Dec 31, 1990 with a 2 percent rate of interest per year.

This loan is destined to finance projects includes in the [word indistinct] Tunisian plan, the achievement of which will be done by Belgian businesses.

3. Draft-agreements signed OCt 13, 1979 by the Tunisian and French Governments. These drafts which are destined to make easier the carrying out of the Tunisian economic development plan are the following:

A. Draft relating to the programme of French assistance:

Under this draft, the French Government put at the disposal of the Tunisian Government credits amounting to 76 million French francs for the acquisition of small equipment mamufactured in France and French raw materials.

B. Draft relating to financing methods of industrial projects:

This draft grants Tunisia credit facilities for the acquisition in France of equipment goods and for the financing of allowances in connection with the construction of a fertilizers' plant (254 million French francs) and with a light subway in Tunis (82 million French francs).

3. [As received]--Draft relating to methods of financing industrial equipment destined to small and medium businesses.

France grants to Tunisia credit facilities intended to finance the acquisition of French industrial equipment relating to programmes of investments in Tunisian small and medium businesses and the financing of allowances in France connected with the supplying of the equipment in question.

4.--General convention for economic, technical and commercial cooperation between the Islamic Conference member states adopted by this organization in May 1977.

This convention aims at strengthening the member states economic, technical and commercial development through the coordiantion of cooperation between these states so as to allow a better use of the available economic, human and technical potentialities.

NO FRENCH TROOPS IN TUNISIA DURING QAFSAH ATTACK

LD280944 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 28 Feb 80 LD

[Text] No French soldiers were present on Tunisian territory at the time of the QAFSAH aggression, either during or after the operation. This was stated yesterday evening by Habib Bourguiba's son when he left the Elysee after 45 minutes of talks with Valery Giscard d'Estaing. The Tunisian president's son came to deliver a message of thanks to the French president from his father for the friendship shown by our country in difficult circumstances.

AUTONOMY DELEGATIONS POSTPONE MEETING UNTIL 28 FEB

TA272117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 27 Feb 80 TA

[Text] The meeting between the three heads of the autonomy delegations scheduled for tonight has been postponed until tomorrow morning at the town of Scheveningen in the Netherlands. The meeting was postponed at the request of Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil.

Our correspondent in the Netherlands, Tzvi Lidar, notes that no meeting has in fact been held so far between Minister Yosef Burg and the Egyptian representatives. The Egyptians asked to postpone the meeting scheduled for tonight explaining that this late time of the day was not the appropriate time to begin a lengthy and complex debate. However, Yosef Burg and Mustafa Khalil spoke on the telephone today. Both of them are staying on the same floor at the Kurhaus Hotel in Scheveningen.

U.S. representative Sol Linowitz held separate meetings today with Burg, Khalil and with director general of the Foreign Ministry, Hayim Kubersky.

Our correspondent points out that no essential issues were discussed at those meetings since Israel announced that it was not ready to discuss essential issues at this round of talks. In fact, only procedural problems such as how to deal with the disputed issues in the future and the priority of the subjects to be dealt with.

The U.S. delegation raised some ideas of its own. However, these were not even discussed. It was determined that the autonomy committee plenum would meet in Cairo before the Passover holiday [1 April].

As noted, the representatives of the three countries will hold their first joint meeting in Scheveningen tomorrow.

Talks Are 'Unofficial'

TA271650 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 27 Feb 80 TA

[Interview with the prime minister's adviser for communications and foreign press affairs Dan Patir in Scheveningen by correspondent Ra'anan Rein, presumably via telephone, time not specified--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Why was the Netherlands capital specifically chosen as the European venue for the talks?

[Answer] First of all regarding The Hague--it is, first of all, a beautiful place; but this, of course, is not the only criterion. It is a place that was selected in coordination with the three delegations--the three representatives of the delegations--and the coordination came chiefly from the American side as to the most convenient capital, after the three parties had agreed that this meeting would take place in Europe because of the convenience of the three delegates' schedules. By the way, I would only like to be more precise and note that this is not anogher round of autonomy talks but, rather, I would say, a kind of intermezzo of an unofficial meeting of the three heads of the delegations. I repeat with emphasis: This is an unofficial meeting.

[Question] The impression formed in Israel is that the Government of the Netherlands is not happy, to say the least, with the idea of hosting the autonomy talks, because this puts a Dutch stamp of approval on the autonomy issue. Is this your impression, too?

[Answer] No. This is not so. I presume that if the Dutch Government had not wanted to host the talks it would not have hosted them, saying so out in the open. The Government of the Netherlands has expressed its readiness to host the talks, which is what it is doing. Second, regarding taking an official Dutch stand, it seems to me that the Dutch foreign minister expressed himself yesterday in the Dutch media, saying that the Netherlands as the host is neutral. And this indeed is so, because the Netherlands is playing no part in the autonomy talks. The Netherland Government's stand regarding the peace process is well-known and positive. One last word: The Dutch hosting, with respect also to all the preliminary arrangements ane the talks themselves, is admirable.

[Question] What are the issues that will be laid down on the negotiating table during this unofficial intermezzo, as you defined it?

[Answer] Since it is an unofficial meeting, I must raise two or three points: First of all, there is no agenda and there was no intention of having one initially. Second, this meeting is not for making substantive decisions because in essence this meeting has no such mandate. This is a meeting intended for airing thoughts, reaching conclusions regarding the moves that have so far been taken and to design guidelines for continued moves--regarding timetables, frameworks for discussion and directions. One party or the other may have thoughts of this sort or on substantive issues, as well, but there is no intention--and I repeat this with emphasis--to have any discussion of substantive issues. This is not the right forum for that.

Burg: Talks Not Going Well

TA281006 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 28 Feb 80 pp 1, 15 TA

[By Josef Wachsman, Shmu'el Segev and Tamar Golan]

[Excerpt] [Text] "The situation is not good." This was reported by Dr Burg last night in a telephone call to Jerusalem. He disclosed that in early contacts the Egyptians and Americans had already raised the most disputed issues in the autonomy talks, such as Jerusalem and the source of authority of the administrative council. According to Dr Burg, they will also raise the other basic bones of contention between Israel and the Egyptians and Americans.

Egyptian Sources Comment

TA281007 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 28 Feb 80 p 3 TA

[By Yohanan Lahav, YEDI'OT AHARONOT correspondent in The Hague]

[Excerpt] "I want the autonomy talks to be over by the target date." This instruction was given by President as-Sadat to Egypt's Prime Minister Khalil prior to the latter's departure for The Hague. As-Sadat also told Khalil: "The problems are known and each of the parties is well aware of the opposing party's opinion. You are now entrusted with the responsibility of making the required efforts." The target date for ending the autonomy talks is May 1980.

The Egyptians who told me about these instructions stressed that they did not mean that something dramatic will happen if there is no breakthrough by the target date. Furthermore--so I was told by my interlocutors, some of the heads of the Egyptian delegation--As-Sadat does not agree with minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, who is considered "a hawk" in Cairo, when he demands "resorting to the United Nations" if an agreement is not reached by the target date. In an interview given to a Paris newspaper, Ghali declared that if an agreement is not achieved Egypt will not hesitate to appeal to the UN Security Council.

When I asked my interlocutors about new ideas that may have been brought by the Egyptian delegation to facilitate the achievement of a quick solution to the autonomy problem, I was told that "the supply of new ideas" is the task of the Americans this time.

However, in his first 3-hour talk with Dr Khalil yesterday the U.S. ambassador, Sol Linowitz, did not raise any such ideas. Linowitz and Khalil agreed that procedures should be speeded up but did not reach an agreement regarding the ways to achieve this.

After the first day of talks it emerges that neither the Egyptians nor the Israelis believe that the Americans behave impartially: The Egyptians openly said they expected the Americans to exert pressure on the Israelis, while the Israelis said they think the Americans are less moderate than the Egyptians.

The senior Egyptian diplomats who talked with me complained about Israel's settlement policy, but were careful not to make any insulting remarks. Dr Mustafa Khalil, who was very critical of Israel in October 1979 when he arrived in London to conduct similar talks, did not make any statements to the press yesterday. Moreover, my interlocutors told me that on the plane, too, Khalil avoided making any remarks. "He did not even give a briefing on the plane," they told me.

AGREEMENT REACHED ON MUTUAL COMPENSATION WITH EGYPT

TA281009 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Feb 80 p 1 TA

[By 'Oded Zaray, HA'ARETZ envoy in Egypt]

[Text] Cairo, 27 February--The question of compensation between Israel and Egypt has been solved. An agreement in principle has been reached on this matter. Egyptian sources reported that Egypt and Israel have decided to end this affair quickly. Egypt submitted a long list of claims, including its losses since the six-day war as a result of the closure of the Suez Canal, the emigration of inhabitants and Israel's use of oil. Israel submitted a claim for compensation for the airfields and the expenses involved in evacuating the Sinai settlers.

AS-SADAT DEMANDS CLARIFICATION FROM AT-TUHAMI

TA280934 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 28 Feb 80 p 1 TA

[By Smadar Peri]

[Text] Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat has demanded that Egyptian deputy prime minister, Hasan at-Tuhami, prepare a letter clarifying the remarks he made in the series of interviews published in the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH. These remarks angered Israel.

President as-Sadat made it clear that he found At-Tuhami's remarks to be "an angry and violent attack on Israel," although he knows that At-Tuhami expressed only his personal opinion and that his remarks should not be interpreted as a declaration of the Egyptian Government.

As may be recalled, At-Tuhami said he knows that Israel's end is imminent. This caused a fury in Israel.

President as-Sadat also noted that he is discontent with the fact that the Egyptian deputy prime minister chose to give such an interview to a paper published in Kuwait, one of the countries which supports the anti-Egyptian position organized among Arab countries.

NO NEGOTIATIONS TO ADVANCE SINAI EVACUATION

TA241019 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 24 Feb 80 p 2 TA

[Excerpt] Israel's policy is not to enter negotiations with Egypt over new interim phases of withdrawal from the Sinai after the deployment along the new line. This has been stated by informed sources. The sources added that there has in fact been no approach on Egypt's part to enter negotiations on this subject.

As may be recalled, reports indicated that Egypt wanted to advance the final withdrawal from the Sinai to a date earlier than the set 2-year period. It should be noted that in the negotiations on signing the peace agreements the Egyptians raised the subject of withdrawal by stages [withdrawal by stages during the single final stage of withdrawal] like that of the previous practice of withdrawal [under the Alinement government] and Israel did not accept this.

BEGIN INTERVIEWED ON STATUS OF RELATIONS WITH EGYPT, SETTLEMENTS

TA261827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1641 GMT 26 Feb 80 TA

[Interview with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin by correspondent Arye Golan on 26 Feb on the occasion of the exchange of ambassadors between Israel and Egypt in the framework of special program "The Road to Peace": in the studio--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, as of today we have an ambassador in Cairo and the Egyptians have an ambassador in Tel Aviv. Beyond the ceremonies and the symbolism, would you say that peace with Egypt is stable; that our friendship with the Egyptians is incontestable?

[Answer] I think that peace is stable and good. However, we should not underestimate the exchange of ambassadors. This is a special day in the history of both nations and of the Middle East as well. We should remember the situation existing between us, between the Egyptians and Israel. There was a state of war which lasted for 31 years; five wars with casualties on both sides, accompanied by pain, sorrow, grief, orphanhood and bereavement to both nations. Now, we have signed a peace treaty, and we are fulfilling its terms. We have ambassadors: an Israeli one in Egypt and an Egyptian ambassador in Israel. Flags are flying on top of each one of these embassies. Peaceful and friendly remarks are being made when the credentials are submitted--as customary among peoples living in peace--indeed, in the full significance of the word. I thank that this is both a good and fine day, both to the Egyptians and the Israelis.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, I remind you that there were several demonstrations in Cairo today of people opposed to the ceremony and the exchange of ambassadors; also, among some people like At-Tuhami and those men of conventional thought--as you defined them once.

[Answer] Certainly, there were various demonstrations in Egypt. So what?

[Question] Do you not see a possibility that some day Egypt will rescind its peace agreement?

[Answer] I do not want to prophesy. There was a much larger demonstration in Syria. President al-Asad ordered--and his order was obeyed--that all traffic be stopped for 5 full minutes. Our embassy in Egypt was denounced 1 week after it started operating. Other Arab countries cried: Woe on me!

What has happened to the Arab people and to a part of the Muslim world?--normalization of relations with Israel! We were called the enemies of Islam. These allegations are false and a utter lie. What kind of enemies are we? We respect the Arab people and Islam just as we respect every nation and faith. However, these definitions are being used. This series of expressions also includes At-Tuhami's remarks, which I do not even want to define. Anyway, he was admonished by the Egyptian president, and it was unambiguously stated that he merely expressed his own opinion. I am certainly amazed at his remarks. He was here, and we spoke with him. We also came to know him. I do not want to go into detail regarding this personality.

There is imposition. This does not surprise us at all. However, I heard President as-Sadat's remarks when Dr Ben-Elisar visited him in his office and submitted his credentials. Those were very nice words. The same holds true for the remarks made by our president. Therefore, we told each other words of peace, friendship and amity. Good words, which are much more important than those marginal things, which are bad indeed. However, this is a day which should be engraved in our memory as one of the most important days.

[Question] Against this background, how do you view the U.S.-Egyptian arms deal?

[Answer] Here we are faced with a problem of quality and quantity. However, I think that this question should not be clarified through public announcements but between governments.

[Question] Are you not worried by the deadlock on the autonomy negotiations?

[Answer] There is no deadlock; there are negotiations. The Egyptian prime minister left for The Hague today. My friend, Dr Burg, will also arrive in The Hague. Here, in Israel, the working groups are conferring. There are difficulties--I even want to stress this point and not merely admit it--because we have reached the difficult problems at this stage. For instance: What kind of council will there be and what sort of council will be elected by the Arab inhabitants of Judea and Samaria?

At Camp David, following an intense and thorough debate on every word, we agreed that it would be an administrative council. Now, when the representative of the Egyptian delegation proposes that a constitutional [tehiqatit] and legislative [mehoqeqet] committee or council be established, this is an absolute deviation from what had been agreed at Camp David. We cannot accept this proposal. Therefore, a difficulty exists. I hope that we manage to persuade the Egyptian delegation that by doing so they are making the negotiations more difficult, since they are deviating from the Camp David accord. The Camp David accord should be realized.

Look, we have fulfilled all the terms in the Camp David accords regarding the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. The same should hold true for the second part dealing with the autonomy. If everyone is loyal to what is stated in the Camp David accords, then an agreement can be reached on the implementation of the autonomy. Certainly, we cannot impose it. The Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el should elect this administrative council. However, an agreement can be reached between us and Egypt on the condition that we remain faithful to the Camp David accords, even by May 1980.

[Question] The other party is saying that the settlements constitute an obstacle to peace. Will Israel continue to settle Jews in Judaea and Samaria in spite of these claims?

[Answer] We have never accepted the opinion that the settlements are an obstacle to peace or that they are illegal. We have an absolutely incontestable right to settle in Eretz Yisra'el. Eretz Yisra'el is not a foreign land as far as we are concerned. We want Jews and Arabs to live together in peace and mutual respect. We do not remove or expel any Arab from his village or his town. First of all, one should remember that if a people realizes its natural right it is not disturbing anyone by doing so and it does not constitute an obstacle to peace.

One should also remember that this is a security problem, whose significance is human life, the lives of men, women and children. This is a top security problem. We witnessed this through the murderous actions of the PLO. If Jews and Arabs live in the same place it becomes more difficult to harm the civilian populations; [it becomes more difficult] to advance toward Petah Tiqva, Rehovot and so on. Therefore, whenever I meet statesmen from other countries I always tell them: Gentlemen, you give us suggestions and we hold you in due respect for it. For you it is only a question of policy or oil. These problems could very well be very important--I do not want to deny it. However, for us it is a question of life and death.

[Question] Nevertheless, the Cabinet has for some weeks avoided making a decision on the date for settling Jews in Hebron and the form of settlement there.

[Answer] It has not been several weeks, only about 2 weeks have elapsed since the decision in principle was made. We decided to discuss this issue at the next Cabinet meeting. This issue will be on the Cabinet's agenda, and we will certainly discuss it.

[Question] Will the decision be in favor of settling Jews in the houses of downtown Hebron?

[Answer] The Cabinet will make the decision, and it will discuss this topic.

[Question] Sir, you recently promised the members of the Judaea and Samaria lobby in the Knesset to amend the legal status of Judaea and Samaria.

[Answer] I said to those people you defined as lobby members--I do not accept this formulation--I said to my friends, Knesset members from various parties, that this is a problem. We are thinking and working on it. We cannot yet submit the results of our work. However, I hope that soon we will be able to report the results of our thinking.

[Question] What direction will the solution take in order not to contradict the Camp David accords?

[Answer] I did not mention the Camp David accords, and there is no need to mention them. Well, when the solution is written we will show it to you.

UK OFFICIAL ON INITIATIVE TO AMEND RESOLUTION 242

TA272010 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 Feb 80 TA

[British assistant secretary of foreign affairs, Douglas Hurd, interview in English with London-based correspondent Tzvi Goren in London, time not specified--recorded]

[Text] [Hurd] We have taken no decisions about an initiative, and we certainly don't intend to cut across or make more difficult the autonomy talks, but we are concerned to keep the process going.

We are worried about the fact that other Arab countries and the Palestinians themselves--or at least some of them--have repudiated Camp David, and we are just exploring with some of our friends, including Israel, with whom we have kept in close touch, with the government, whether there is anything which can be done to, by showing some greater recognition of Palestinian rights, helping the peace process forward. Maybe not, but that is what we are trying to establish.

[Question] Recently you have said that it is not the role of the British Government to recognize the PLO, as it only grants recognition to states or governments.

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] And this is, in a way, in its phrasing, a change from a letter written by your prime minister a couple of months ago, saying that there is no question of the British Government recognizing the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinians. What is the change in this wording?

[Answer] Well, you are much cleverer than I am. I can't see any change between those two texts. [laughing] No, the PLO obviously does represent quite a substantial body of people and there's no question of us recognizing it as a government, nor, indeed, does any other European country that I know of recognize it as a government. In one way or another--and I use these words carefully--in one way or another the people who actually live on the West Bank, and in East Jerusalem, have got to be brought into the peace process.

U.S. Behind Initiative

TA271237 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 Feb 80 p 6 TA

[By Yo'av Qarni, London correspondent]

[Excerpt] The BBC correspondent in Jerusalem, Michael Elkins, claims that the British initiative to modify UNSC Resolution 242 was conceived in the office of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

According to Elkins, in early 1979 Vance asked the head of the Yale University Department of Social Sciences, Colin Williams, to prepare a new draft that might replace Resolution 242. Williams was a senior member of the Aspen Institute for Strategic Studies and also served as an adviser to the CIA. He was deemed appropriate since he was also a member of Teddy Kollek's "Jerusalem Committee." The guidelines Williams received specified that the draft should placate the Palestinians, but it should "not embarrass the U.S. Department of State."

In the middle of last summer, Vance and presidential National Security Adviser Brzezinski approved the proposed version which, for the first time, included a demand for a "political solution" of the Palestinian problem.

Contacts were immediately opened between Washington and London, and UK Foreign Minister Lord Carrington agreed with the suggested version. It was agreed that Britain would further the idea secretly and that it would initiate contacts with the PLO to this end.

Carrington raised the idea with former German Chancellor Willy Brandt and with Austria's Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, and thus came about the notorious Brandt-Kreisky-'Arafat meeting in Vienna last July.

Elkins claims that 'Arafat gave "tentative and unofficial" consent to the proposed version. The information was "leaked" by Ambassador Robert Strauss during the Alexandria talks, causing the embarrassment that Washington attempted to avoid.

ARENS EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER U.S.-EGYPT ARMS DEAL

TA261317 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 26 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Egypt says it is surprised by Israeli opposition to the huge arms deal. A government statesman said the weapons would be used to stop Soviet infiltration into the area, not against Israel. But Knesset member Moshe Arens is worried. The chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee called for action in a talk to Reform Jewish leaders here.

[Begin Arens recording] We are facing a very serious problem today with massive arms shipments that the United States is planning for armies in this part of the world, whether it is Jordan, Saudi Arabia or Egypt. A new arms race is being sparked in the area, and I think there is room and need for political action on the part of the U.S. Jewish community to forestall something that is not going to be good for Israel, is not going to be good for the United States as well. [end recording]

F-18 SOUGHT AS NEXT GENERATION FIGHTER AIRCRAFT FOR IDF

TA271953 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Israel may purchase the U.S. F-18 to serve as the Israeli Air Force's next general fighter aircraft. Our military correspondent, 'Amiram Nir reports that the U.S. fighter plane will be the leading IDF aircraft, whereas the combat airplane to be produced in Israel is to replace the outdated Skyhawks and Phantoms, which will gradually be removed from service. Our correspondent adds that two U.S. plants have proposed to Israel various models of the F-18, and the inclination is to purchase the McDonnell-Douglas model, which is already in operational service.

BEGIN ASKS LIBERALS TO SUPPORT SHAMIR

TA260858 Jerusalem POST in English 26 Feb 80 p 3 TA

[By Asher Wallfish, Knesset reporter]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin told a Liberal Party delegation yesterday that, although he had no Cabinet posts to offer them, he expected them to give him the go-ahead this week to appoint Knesset Speaker Yitzhaq Shamir as foreign minister. The liberals had asked Begin to make good their underrepresentation in the Cabinet since Simha Ehrlich's resignation as finance minister, but Begin said he could not give the Liberals any new portfolios.

He asked the five-man delegation, led by Avraham Katz, to show understanding for his position and let him appoint Shamir immediately because it was offensive to Shamir's dignity to keep the appointment in abeyance for so many months. Shamir has many problems awaiting him in the ministry, Begin noted.

The Liberals promised to ask the chairman of the party executive committee, to convene the committee as soon as possible. "This week, please," said Begin. But Katz said later the exeuctive committee was unlikely to meet until after Purim.

PEACE NOW ISSUES PRINCIPLES FOR PALESTINIAN NEGOTIATIONS

TA260942 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Feb 80 p 1 TA

[By HA'ARETZ party affairs correspondent Amnon Barzilay]

[Text] Peace Now leaders have drawn up a "document of principles" calling on the Cabinet to open peace negotiations with any Palestinian element which will recognize negotiations as the only means of resolving the dispute. The Peace Now leaders have taken a bold step by doing away with two of the conditions both Alinement and Likud governments have so far held sacred; namely, their readiness to open negotiations with a Palestinian element only on condition that it first put an end to terrorist activities and that the Palestinians recognize Israel's existence.

Further principles stipulate that Israel will recognize the Palestinians' right to a national existence as long as this right does not conflict with Israel's security interests.

Peace Now spokesman 'Omri Padan said yesterday that the movement does not wish to commit itself to favoring the establishment of a Palestinian state as the only solution and leaves the Jordanian option open. He added that, unlike SHELI, Peace Now does not call for a return to the 1967 borders.

The document also stipulates that both parties to the negotiations will have to relinquish some rights: Israel will have to relinquish the historical rights to Greater Israel, and the Palestinians will have to forego the right to the refugees to return to Israel.

SHARON CALLS ON CABINET TO EFFECT HEBRON SETTLEMENT

TA251233 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 25 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has called on the Cabinet to effect its decision in principle regarding the resumption of Jewish settlement in Hebron. According to him, the timing for it is right. A technical hitch is merely the reason why the Cabinet has not yet made such a decision. Sharon was speaking at a meeting with party correspondents in Tel Aviv.

Pledges Not To Evacuate Arabs

TA251234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 25 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that the government does not intend to evict any Arab from his house in Hebron. There are empty houses there as well as many plots of land belonging to Jews. The same rule applies to both Hebron and Jerusalem, said Minister Sharon. It is inconceivable that a Jew should not be allowed to pray near the Wailing Wall just as it is inconceivable that he should not be able to pray in the Makhpela Cave.

Speaking to party correspondents in Tel Aviv, Minister Sharon said the number of Jewish settlements in the territories has doubled since the Likud assumed power, reaching 64. The number of inhabitants has also doubled, reaching 20,000. Sharon added that a water-pipe from Lake Tiberias to the Jordan Valley is under construction.

AFGHANISTAN

KABUL REPORTS RESCUE OF CHILDREN FROM 'REACTIONARY ELEMENTS'

LD271822 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpt] In accordance with the order of Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, a number of innocent and defenseless children who were dragged into the incidents of 21 and 22 February, thanks to the provocation and threats of the subservient lackeys of U.S. imperialism, the Chinese communists and reactionary rulers of Pakistan, were today handed over to their parents and relatives. An informed source said: On 21 and 22 February a number of internal reactionary elements, with the collaboration of U S. imperialism, Chinese communism and Pakistani reactionary circles [words indistinct] in order to attain their ominous aims and foul and inhuman and criminal intentions, embarked on troublemaking and arson in Kabul and set fire to shops, private and government vehicles and plundered public property. These servants of U.S. imperialism, CIA reactionaries and enemies of the peace and tranquillity of our compatriots enticed and threatened a number of innocent children and juveniles in our city--the sons of the bright and shining culture of the country--and used them in order to serve ominous purposes.

The source said: The country's security forces, in view of their historical responsibility for preventing acts of robbery and subversion, rescued from the sites of incidents a number of innocent children who would have been exploited and abused by these enemies of our homeland in connection with the said incidents.

The source added: On receiving the report on the robberies and lootings by our homeland's enemies, Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, expressed deep regret and ordered the security forces to immediately contact the families of the children involved and hand them over to their parents.

Following this humanitarian act by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Government, which demonstates the humanitarian and progressive policy of the revolutionary leadership of the PDPA, innocent children and juveniles of our city's citizens were handed over to their families.

AFP: LIFE BACK TO NORMAL IN KABUL; MOST SHOPS REOPENED

BK280708 Hong Kong AFP in English 0705 GMT 28 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Islamabad, 28 Feb (AFP)--Life was back to normal today in the Afghan capital Kabul, with most shops in the bazaar open for business and the administrative machine running again, diplomatic sources here said today.

Soviet troops who were patrolling the city have now been mostly replaced by Afghan patrols, although they remained in force around the Soviet Embassy and the university to the south of Kabul, the sources said.

Observers here recalled that night letters being distributed before the Kabul bazaar strike started on February 21 urged the city's population to stop work only until February 26.

Afghan radio yesterday said that the clashes in Kabul, in which several hundred people were reportedly killed, resulted from "foreign imperialist intervention".

Troops Forcing Shops Open

BK281047 Hong Kong AFP in English 1010 GMT 28 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Kabul, 28 Feb (AFP)--More than half of Kabul's shopkeepers had reopened for business today, one week after the start of a general strike in protest against the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, but reports spoke of fear and duress.

The city was calm, with none of the sporadic gunfire that had erupted into widespread anti-Soviet disturbances before martial law was imposed last Friday. But travelers reaching New Delhi said a kind of "fear psychosis" had gripped the capital as Afghan troops loyal to President Babrak Karmal and militiamen forced merchants to open their shops at gunpoint.

An Afghan television technician arriving on a scholarship confirmed reports of executions of members of the country's Shi'ite Moslem minority accused of orchestrating the anti-Soviet rioting which reportedly killed hundreds. The technician, who asked not to be identified, said there had also been mass arrests of Shi'ites, known locally as hazaras, who have led opposition to Marxist rule, possibly inspired by Iranian Shi'ite leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

A correspondent of the U.S. television network ABC claimed to have seen Soviet troops firing into crowds from helicopter gunships on Friday. He said up to 2,000 people may have been mowed down in rioting he said looked like a "civil war."

A Pakistani studying at Kabul University said classes had resumed but only about one student in ten was attending and there were no teachers. The student was on his way home via Delhi because bus routes from Kabul to Pakistan were closed.

Meanwhile, the handful of foreign correspondents confined to Kabul's Intercontinental Hotel has been reduced to three Indians and two Japanese.

Soviets in Control

TA271630 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 27 Feb 80 TA

[From "correspondent's report"]

[Text] There has been little news from Afghanistan since the big anti-Soviet riots in Kabul 6 days ago. Indeed, the authorities appear to be doing all they can to prevent news getting out. That move has met with some success. Our correspondent in Delhi, Mark Tulley, tells us it is not even clear or certain just who is in charge of the Afghanistan Government. [Begin recording]

At the height of the rioting on Friday martial law was declared. Who would administer the martial law, however, was not clarified. Soviet troops and Soviet aircraft were involved in quelling the riots and Soviet tanks are still reported on the streets of the capital. It is generally assumed therefore that Soviet officers are in charge of law and order in the city. Even before last week's riots, it was known there were a large number of Soviet police and other officials working in the Interior Ministry. The Afghan administration seems to have collapsed after the riots. Large number of civil servants failed to report for work and civilian members of the communist People's Democratic Party, armed with Russian Kalashnikov submachine guns, searched pedestrians and motorists on the streets. It is not yet clear how many civil servants are now back at work.

A further indication of the control of the Soviet Union is the fact that President Babrak Karmal is now protected by Soviet guards. This presumably means that Soviet officials control access to him. He played no public role in the crisis for the last 6 days. He has not even been seen or photographed in public, although it was reported that he attended a Soviet reception. Last night the radio announced that the president would be making an important broadcast. He did broadcast but he made no direct mention of the crisis; speaking only of the country's agricultural policy and the aid the Soviet Union was giving to make up the admitted shortfall in production. [end recording]

ARMY REINFORCEMENTS ATTACKED BY REBELS IN EAST

BK271617 Hong Kong AFP in English 1606 GMT 27 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Islamabad, 27 Feb (AFP)--More than 100 persons were killed when Moslem rebels attacked a reinforcement column of Afghan troops at Jalalabad in the east of the country, diplomatic sources here said here today.

The column was sent from Kabul following nightly fighting at Jalalabad, situated near the Pakistan border, and the situation remains tense, the source said. Soviet troops have apparently taken part in battles there during the past two nights and have suffered losses, the source reported.

As in Kabul, Jalalabad bazaar has been shut down, travellers from the town reported.

Meanwhile, traffic between Kabul and the Pakistan-Afghan border has practically ground to a halt, reports reaching Peshawar on the Pakistani side indicated.

RIVAL REBEL GROUPS PROGRESSING TOWARD ALLIANCE

BK280022 Hong Kong AFP in English 0011 GMT 28 Feb 80 BK

[By Erwan Jourand]

[Text] Peshawar, North Pakistan, 27 Feb (AFP)--The leaders of six rival Afghan Moslem groups are making good progress toward the creation of a rebel alliance and their guerrillas are already mounting joint military operations against Soviet and Afghan regular army troops, rebel sources said here.

The union of the six organizations under a supreme council is expected before the March 1 deadline set by the groups, sources said. The council will direct the rebellion and elect a president of the alliance.

Observers said the mere fact that these normally contentious groups are meeting daily is a sign of progress. Some Moslem groups have spent as much time fighting among themselves as fighting against the Soviet-Afghan forces, journalists returning from combat areas have said.

Inside Afghanistan, the fierce Pushtus have reportedly continued their traditional vendettas between their own tribes and clans. Some Moslem guerrillas have likewise battled for control of "liberated" villages. Many groups follow certain mullahs, or religious leaders, and are divided according to their native region.

But it seems now that some unification on the battlefield is now taking place during the wait for political unification.

A leader of the one of the two factions in the Hezb-e Eslami Afghanistan group, considered the organization with the best military structure, said his forces were now fighting at the side of the other faction's guerrillas. He said the factions have made attacks on the road between the capital city of Kabul and Jalalabad in northwest Afghanistan: "We attack all the government vehicles and let only the buses go by." He said joint ambushes had also been mounted.

Observers saw such joint operations as a sign of new unity for a rebellion undertaken by tribal bands that have as a political program only their common religious faith and their nationalism. The Hezb-e Eslami group has proposed that the supreme council reflect the respective sizes of the six organizations' forces. "That is the suggestion that we are making," a spokesman said. "We don't know if it will be accepted by the five other groups."

BANGLADESH

PARLIAMENT CONTINUES DEBATE ON FOREIGN POLICY

HK280545 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 27 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The lively debate on the country's foreign policy was resumed in the Jatiya Sangsad [national parliament] today with the participation of more members.

Taking the floow, Maulana Abdur Rahim of the Islamic Democratic League told the house that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan is a lesson for the small Third World countries like Bangladesh. He said the Soviets entered into Afghanistan by taking advantage of some unequal treaty existing between the two countries. Maulana Abdur Rahim demanded that the government should revoke some, what he called, unequal treaties existing between Bangladesh and the Soviet union on the one hand and Bangladesh and India on the other. Speaking next, Prof Muzaffar Ahmed of the National Awami Party expressed his appreciation for the government's stand on economic independence of the country. He also congratulated the government on the role played by Bangladesh at the Havana summit conference of the nonalined countries. Prof Muzaffar Ahmed, however, alleged that Bangladesh is not pursuing a truly nonalined policy with regard to the situation in Afghanistan.

(M.R. Tariq) of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party [BNP] told the house that friendship and cooperation with all countries of the world including our neighbors on the basis of sovereign equality constitute the cornerstone of the foreign policy of Bangladesh.

Speaking next, Mohammad Toaha of Samyabadi Dal stressed the need for maintaining a balance of power between the two superpowers in the region. Referring to the Soviet intervention in AfghanistanToaha described it as a naked aggression against a Muslim and nonalined country. He described the role of Bangladesh in the recent Islamic foreign ministers conference in Islamabad as thoroughly proper.

(Aminuddin Sarkar) of the BNP told the house that the foreign policy pursued by the present government has earned a place of honor for Bangladesh in the international community.

Participating in the discussion, Dr M. A. Ghani, an independent member, said that the foreign policy of Bangladesh has by and large met with success. He congratulated the government on the firm stand taken on the Afghan issue. Dr Ghani called upon the government to abrogate the treaties of friendship existing between Bangladesh and powers stronger than herself. (Atiqur Chowdhury) of the Gana Front lauded the foreign policy of the government and congratulated it on the firm stand taken on the Afghan crisis. He said the government stand on this issue has the backing of the entire nation.

Earlier, four bills were introduced in the Sangsad by Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed; Health and Population Control Minister M.A. Matin and Railway Minister Abdul Alim. The house was adjourned to meet again tomorrow afternoon.

INDIA

RAO, ALGERIA'S BEN YAHIA GIVE TOASTS IN DELHI 26 FEB

BK271007 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0848 GMt 27 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao held a dinner in honour of Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, member of Political Bureau of the National Liberation Front Party and minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, in Delhi on February 26. Proposing a toast, Rao said:

"Your excellency, friends, it is a great pleasure for me to welcome your excellency to India. Your visit comes soon after the recent elections in India and affords us a welcome opportunity to exchange views on subjects of mutual interest in keeping with the tradition of India-Algerian friendship and cooperation.

"The close bonds existing between India and Algeria have been strengthened by our common desire for development and world peace. Both of us have realised that for any substantial development in our way of life peace is essential. This realisation has been reiterated on every occasion when different leaders of our countries have met.

"India and Algeria have close cultural and commercial ties. Both are nonaligned countries and have close proximity of views on important international issues. Nonalignment is the way both our countries have chosen as their path to development. It ensures for each nation the independence of thought and freedom of expression so important in our endeavour to build a better and meaningful world. Only through nonalignment have nations ensured that the benefits of peace and prosperity are not nullified by the spillover of big power confrontation in different regions of the world.

"Occasionally, however, nonaligned countries do get drawn into the vortex of such confrontations. This is what has happened in our region, foreshadowing an undesirable superpower confrontation in the area. Our stand in the matter is clear: All countries of the region concerned should channelise their energies towards seeking measures that contribute to the maintenance and strengthening of peace and stability in the region. Countries which do not belong to the region should not impose their views or solutions favoured by them. India's stand is consistent with her view that intervention or interference by one country in the internal affairs of another is impermissible. We are at the same time convinced that a crisis such as this should not be met by the countries concerned succumbing to an apparently simple but potentially dangerous option of external military assistance.

"In this context and in the interest of peace, India counsels all countries concerned to exercise the utmost restraint and to urgent steps to defuse the situation.

"Excellency, it is with admiration that we have watched the rapid progress you have made for uplifting the living standards of your people under the leadership of the late President Boumedienne and now under H. E. President Chadli Bendjedid. India and Algeria both believe that developing countries can cooperate and promote mutual self-reliance amongst themselves. India has played a modest role in the various developmental programmes being launched by the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. New avenues of economic cooperation, commercial exchanges and industrial collaboration proposals are underway and a large number of Indian firms and technicians are taking part in the developmental plans of Algeria. India attaches high importance to a multifaceted relationship and mutually beneficial cooperation with Algeria.

"India's consistent and principled support to the Arab cause is well known. I can only reiterate our firm conviction that a just and lasting solution to the West Asian problem lies in complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab lands and the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to have a national state of their own.

"Excellency, I am sure that your visit will enable us to come to a still closer understanding on various matters of mutual interest, both in the economic and political fields. With this understanding our two countries will be able to cooperate together in different world forums for the collective benefit of our peoples.

"Friends, may I now request you to join me in raising a toast to His Excellency Mohamed Ben Yahia, minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, to the distinguished members of his delegation and to lasting friendship between our two countries."

Replying to the toast, Algerian foreign minister said:

"I wish at the outset to convey to you my feelings of utmost gratitude for the warm and brotherly welcome which you have extended to me as well as to the delegation accompanying me. In this welcome I see the living testimony of the legendary hospitality which is the trademark of your country and the intangible proof that relations of exemplary quality are binding us. On this land of India, the womb of millenial civilizations, our meeting today, mister minister, highlights the sustained companionship of both our peoples throughout contemporary history. When the world was swayed by colonial domination both India and Algeria, during the phases of their respective national liberation struggles, brought to the forefront the indomitable surge of colonial peoples and made their emancipation the foundation of their solidarity. Such a fruitful dialogue and such a staunch confidence have been nurtured in a common struggle towards restoring their collective identity and towards taking in their hands their own destinies.

"Ever since then such dialogue and such confidence have been fostered by our people's conviction that the sacrifices entailed by the struggle for national independence had to be pursued in the form of a global mobilisation for the liberation of Third World countries and within the general framework of the history of our age, a history to be made, a history which should no longer be submitted to for the emergence of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Our memory will indeed forever bear the imprint of the exemplary contributions made by both our countries in their persisting action from Bandung to this day toward imposing the existence of a democratic international order. Thus with each passing year our relations have been stamped by a quality and a density commensurate with their deep attachment to the same principles and with their relentless determination to reach the same objectives. In rejecting the harsh law of exploitation and domination in their various aspects both our developing countries found and are still finding in nonalignment an opportunity to promote the type of relationship widely open towards the horizons of genuine friendship and effective solidarity as required by the equal progress for all human societies.

"In a world subjected to major changes during the process of decolonisation it was indeed our duty to enable ourselves to break those yokes that hamper or block any march towards progress and at the same time to work out a response to the situation created by underdevelopment.

"Now more than ever nonalignment, which placed us at the forefront of militant action, appears to be the most efficient instrument and an unmatched political tool for our struggle towards a more equitable and more human world. In a universe dominated by big power rivalry and bloc policy, by economic blackmail and interference in domestic affairs, our adherence to the principles and objectives of the nonaligned movement projects our refusal to put up with the inescapable conditions likely to be imposed by the use of force or threats bound to bring about injustice in the distribution of prosperity among nations.

"Both India and Algeria are concerned by the reactivation of military bases and the return to the policy of military pacts which are part of the game of rivalries which create zones of tension and put the policy of detente in serious jeopardy. In facing such situation it is our duty, there is no doubt about it to strengthen together with all the nonaligned countries our cohesion and to coordinate our action. Only a steadfast will to promote a consistent policy geared towards insuring peace in the world can consolidate our independence since we have to recognize that the nonaligned countries themselves stand to be most likely threatened in their existence. India and Algeria, convinced that the circumstances prevailing in the present international juncture require such a determination, are called upon to assume a greater responsibility. Such a responsibility compels them to engage in sustained concertation with a view to affirming forcefully their constant nonalignment and to contribute at the same time to the consolidation of the nonaligned movement through the rejection of the policy of blocs and foreign interference.

"Both our countries are so rightly concerned by the rekindling of international tension. The nonaligned countries many reasons to see behind it the spectres of exploitation and bondage and to fear that they could still be exposed to foreign power's greed. [sentence as received]

"In fact, it is easy to observe that in our fast changing world the developing countries' aspirations to full emancipation and genuine equality in international economic relations lack the political will to put an end to the unbalance that is typical of their relationship with the Third World. Worse still, new factors of worry and new motives for concern bound to jeopardize international peace and security are emerging. Such elements, resulting from the developed countries delaying tactics, clearly account for the fact that multilateral negotiations towards the restructuring of the international economic relations are now bogged down or doomed to failure.

"Your country, mister minister, very early distinguished itself among the tireless architects of such a major change, as evidenced in the many conference negotiations and dialogues which accompany our slow and arduous progress of our world towards a new, better and more equitable one.

"The impact of India's voice in the forums held to prepare the world of today towards this necessary mutation reverberates echo like the aspirations of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Likewise, my country which considers its action in the field of international economic relations as the natural extension of the objectives and ideals of the Algerian revolution, fully appreciates the importance of an approach, which within the framework of Third World solidarity and cooperation, would engage our two countries to strive together towards the emergence of a new and equitable order through its manifold economic, monetary, financial and commercial components.

"The Third World, for its part, is feeling more and more actutely the surviving of an obsolete and unacceptable order it takes the true measure of things at stake and understand the importance that it should give to the international negotiation, particularly to the global negotiations soon to be opened within the framework of the United Nations.

"Yet, while demanding a North-South dialogue based on equality we ought not overlook the pressing, the grave issues which many developing countries are facing. We must therefore promote at the same time intensive relations among the countries of the South and strive towards the establishment of a dense and many faceted cooperation commercial exchange, scientific and technical fields as well as economic and financial matters while bringing our human resources up to the rightful value.

"On this day I wish to reiterate Algeria's readiness to develop together with India a broad current of exchanges commensurate with both our friendship and with the ambitions we hold in common for the sake of the Third World. Such a stream of cooperation should be made to stand as an example for the countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Indeed, it is self-evident that it is in the North-South dialog that we shall find the foundation of equitable and balanced exchanges with the countries of the North. This development of our exchanges would naturally fall within the framework of the international development strategy for the forthcoming decade and highlight the prospects for unity and solidarity among developing countries on the basis of their faithfulness to the principles of nonalignment.

"Indeed, mister minister, now more than ever we ought to apply our efforts and draw the utmost from our potentialities by imparting to our cooperation in all fields the impetus that could raise it to the level of our hopes. More than ever the democratization of international relations is a necessity because the bloc policy has demonstrated through recent events its singular harmfulness. It is the duty of both India and Algeria to reaffirm their commitment to seek such ways and means as to place the Third World countries in a position to shake themselves free from any kind of pressure and to consolidate their own ties of solidatiry and friendship. By such action our countries will insure onwards the triumph of the principles and objectives of nonalignment."

Yahia Meets Gandhi

BK271605 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1544 GMT 27 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Foreign Minister of Algeria Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia on February 27 handed a letter from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to the prime minister. The Algerian foreign minister conveyed the desire of his country to improve and expand relations with India and increase bilateral cooperation in all respects. He also informed the prime minister about discussions held recently at the Islamic foreign ministers conference held in Islamabad. He said that his country was of the view that the conference should have given attention not only to Afghanistan but also to other critical situations in different parts of the world.

Both the Algerian foreign minister and the prime minister [words indistinct] that both countries should cooperate and remain in touch with each other on developments of the situation in Afghanistan, etc. The prime minister emphasized that India is and will remain an area of stability and security in the region. Also, India will continue to play a role of a reliable partner in the endeavors of developing and nonaligned countries.

The prime minister conveyed to the Algerian foreign minister that developing countries should give greater attention to cooperation with each other. She pointed out that India has the infrastructure and technological capacity to be an effective partner in such developmental activities. India would be happy to cooperate with Algeria in this sphere. The prime minister also emphasized that India's policies regarding economic cooperation with other countries have been on constructive lines and without extraneous political considerations.

Foreign Ministers Hold Talks

BK271627 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1548 GMT 27 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Official level talks between our foreign minister and the foreign minister was assisted by ambassador in New Delhi Mr Raduf Bendjakdji [as received]; Mr M. Lounis, director (Asia and Latin America); Algerian Foreign Ministry and other senior officials. Our foreign minister was assisted by Foreign Secretary R.D. Sathe; additional secretary (U.N.) N. Krishanan. The two foreign ministers had a broad exchange of views on bilateral relations and they welcomed the trend of growth and expansion in these relations.

They agreed the Indo-Algerian relations which are multifaceted covering the political, economic, scientific [as received] that agreement of scientific and technological cooperation and setting up of a joint commission would be signed before the Algerian foreign minister's departure on the 28th. An agreement on bilateral cultural exchange programme would also be signed. It was felt that these agreements will give further impetus to Indo-Algerian relations.

While accepting the need for North-South cooperation for bringing about a stable and just international economic order, both the foreign ministers agreed that it is even more important to encourage cooperation and self-reliance among the developing countries. In this context endeavors should be made and energies should be (?lent) to increase the content and scope of "South-South cooperation". It was agreed that further possibilities of Indo-Algerian cooperation in all fields would be explored in a purposeful manner. The two foreign ministers exchanged views on the international situation as well as developments in the Middle East, Iran and Afghanistan. It was the assessment of the two foreign ministers that to defuse the situation the following objectives should be aimed at:

An attempt should me made to limit the critical events in Afghanistan within Afghanistan itself instead of letting these events affect other countries.

All the countries concerned should desist from actions which would escalate the tension or exacerbate the situation further.

Efforts should continue to be made to eradicate interference by one country in the internal affairs of another country.

International opinion should be mobilized and initiatives taken and discussions should continue to avoid great power confrontation, revival of the cold war and the creation of military bases in different parts of the world by great powers.

Nonaligned countries should particularly guard against recent critical developments in the international relations affecting the unity of the nonaligned movement.

Nonaligned countries should also cooperate with each other and ensure that the nonaligned movement does not convert itself into an anti-Soviet movement or get involved in the cold war activities.

The integrity of the nonaligned movement depends on its avoiding swinging in favour of one movement or the other and its ability to preserve the independence of member countries in conducting their foreign policy on the basis of objective criteria and merits of the issues within the framework of their assessment of their own national interests.

The endeavour of the international community and especially the nonaligned movement should be to ensure Afghan independence and nonalignment. The fate of Afghanistan should not become the subject matter of discussion between great powers in terms of their respective national interests. It should rightly be decided by the Afghan people themselves.

In this context both the foreign ministers felt that the nonaligned countries should keep in continuous touch with each other and increase their efforts to defuse the situation. Our foreign minister informed the Algerian foreign minister about the discussions that India has had with leaders of neighbouring countries as well as with foreign ministers and special envoys of other countries. He also emphasized the importance which India attaches to the meeting of the Group of 77 which is commencing in New York from March 11th. There was agreement between the foreign ministers that the Group of 77 should evolve a joint approach for the next global round of negotiations on economic matters.

GOVERNMENT DISCOUNTS CARTER'S NEUTRAL AFGHANISTAN PROPOSAL

BK271351 Hong Kong AFP in English 1347 GMT Feb 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 27 Feb (AFP)--India today discounted as "insufficient" U.S. President Jimmy Carter's proposal for a neutral Afghanistan as it was "far away from a meaningful step".

A Foreign Office spokesman said that India's objective was to preserve the independence of Afghanistan and its non-aligned character.

Acceptance of "such proposals would convert Afghanistan as hot bed of super power conflict," [as received] the spokesman said. President Carter had made known his proposal in reply to a letter to the ailing Yugoslav President Marshal Josip Broz Tito on the Afghan situation.

SPY RING REPORTED DISCOVERED IN DEFENSE MINISTRY

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 10 Feb 80 p 1 WA

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 9--The Special Police Branch in New Delhi is reported to have uncovered a spy ring in India's Defence Ministry, Radio Australia reported. It said two men working in Army headquarters had been arrested for passing military secrets to an unnamed foreign embassy. The men had been remanded in custody on spy charges. AFP [Associated Press of Pakistan]

BOMBAY PAPER EDITORIAL ON PRC STAND TOWARD PAKISTAN, INDIA

BK261057 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 20 Feb 80 p 8 BK

[Text] A Chinese commentator has charged Moscow with trying to "divide" the Indian subcontinent, that is to "estrange India from Pakistan."

This concern for good relations between India and Pakistan is rather unusual for the Chinese. This lends importance to the commentary. Is Beijing really inclined to revise its policy towards the subcontinent? This question is not easy to answer in the affirmative. For China's own main goal in this region has in the past been the same as it is now charging Moscow with pursuing--hegemony and accentuation of India-Pakistan disputes. It has had no qualms in encouraging Pakistani recalcitrance on Kashmir and thereby obstructing an amicable settlement of this issue. It has taken every opportunity to prod Pakistan on to the path of confrontation with India. At first, the Chinese did so in retaliation against New Delhi's refusal to agree to a settlement of the India-China border dispute on Beijing's terms. Later, the Chinese attitude towards this country hardened still further with the deterioration in the Sino-Soviet relations. They imagined, without the slightest justification, that New Delhi and Moscow had ganged up against them. In point of fact, New Delhi has had good reason to accuse Beijing of ganging up with Islamabad to harm India's interests. Have the Chinese now, in view of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, realized the need to promote peace and stability in the subcontinent?

Mrs. Indira Gandhi has often expressed her desire to bury the hatchet and pave the way for cordial relations with Beijing despite its anti-Indian stance all these years. It was her initiative in this behalf that led to the restoration of full-fledged diplomatic relations in 1976. But since then the bilateral relations have for all practical purposes been in the cold storage. Mrs. Gandhi reiterated her desire for an improvement in these ties again after taking over as prime minister last month. The Chinese leaders, too, have made warm references to India in recent weeks. But it has yet to be established that they have begun to revise their basic attitude to India-Pakistan problems. New Delhi is fully aware of Beijing's and Washington's interest in strengthening Pakistan militarily in the wake of the developments in Afghanistan. But if they expect New Delhi to recognize and accept the need for their military assistance to Islamabad, they must be willing and able to provide credible guarantees that Gen. Zia will not scuttle the Simla pact which alone can provide the basis of India-Pakistan rapprochement. It is possible that they themselves are in a quandary over this question. But they have to find a solution.

JAGJIVAN RAM RESIGNS AS JANATA PARTY LEADER

BK271643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Even as the Janata leaders were busy working out a compromise formula on the Rashtriya Sayamsevak Sangh [RSS] issue, Mr Jagjivan Ram today resigned as leader of the party's parliamentary wing. He told newsmen in New Delhi this evening that nothing short of a total delinking with the RSS will satisfy the majority of the party members and the people at large.

Mr Jagjivan Ram's resignation comes after a letter from party President Chandra Shekhar accusing Mr Ram of shifting his position on the dual membership issue. Mr Chandra Shekhar also charged Mr Ram for going back on the assurances he had given to the party's parliamentary board on Monday [25 February]. Mr Chandra Shekhar said: I cannot help observing that this is unbecoming of a person who shouldered the responsibility as a leader of a parliamentary party.

Mr Jagjivan Ram's short resignation letter was sent to Mr Madhu Dandabati, who is the deputy leader of the party in the Lok Sabha. Mr Jagjivan Ram told newsmen this evening that he has not resigned from the party at the moment. He said if the party was to survive, it has to convince its workers and the people of the country at large that it is a secular party.

In reply to a newsman's question, Mr Jaqjavin Ram said it is necessary and feasible that there is a new all India political party based on secularism, socialism and democracy.

Mr Jaqjivan Ram, who did not attend today's meeting of the party's parliamentary board or the National Executive, said it is essential that the party members are delinked from the RSS. According to him the July decision last year that the party legislators and office bearers would be debarred from taking part in RSS activities will not satisfy a majority of the party workers and the people.

A spokesman of the Janata Party told newsmen that the resignation letter of Mr Jaqjivan Ram will be placed before the parliamentary party soon.

The National Executive of the Janata Party today authorized party President Chandra Shekhar to discuss the matter of delinking the party from the RSS with Mr L.K. Advani and others on the basis of a formula adopted by the parliamentary board. According to the formula no legislator or office bearer of the Janata Party shall participate in the day to day activities of the RES. It also says that no member of the Janata Party should work in any front organization which functions in competition to one sponsored by the Janata Party.

A resolution endorsing the formula and the proceedings of the parliamentary board was passed by the national executive today. Mr Ram Dhan and Dinesh Singh expressed their dissent on the resolution.

During the discussion, Mr Advani pleaded that the formula should not be accepted and he and his friends are opposed to it. Other members, including Mr Krishan Kant, urged for enlarging the scope of formulation to make it applicable not only to legislators and office bearers but also to all Janata members.

CONGRESS-I WINS 1 HOUSE CONTEST, LEADING IN 3 OTHERS

BK251251 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpt] In the byelection to five seats of the Lok Sabha, the Congress-I has already bagged one and is leading in three other constituencies. In another constituency the Communist Party of India-Marxist [CPI-M] candidate is in the lead.

Congress-I candidate C.M. Stephen has won the Gulbarga seat to the Lok Sabha, defeating his nearest independent rival, Bapu Gowda, by a margin of over 73,000 votes. Stephen polled 150,665 votes against 76,895 polled by Bapu Gowda. The other four candidates lost their deposits. All India Radio Bangalore correspondent says Bapu Gowda was supported by all opposition parties including the Janata, the Congress-U, the CPI and the CPI-M.

Further Report

BK251642 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpts] The Congress-I has retained the Gulbarga parliamentary seat in Karnataka and Lakhimpur-Kheri seat and Rae Bareli seat in Uttar Pradesh and is poised for a victory in (Kenjhar) where byelections were held yesterday. In the Serampore constituency of West Bengal, the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] candidate has established an unbeatable lead over his nearest Congress-I rival at the completion of counting of votes of five of the seven assembly segments.

In the Gulbaraga Lok Sabha constituency, Congress-I candidate C.M. Stephen defeated the combined opposition candidate Bapu Gowda by a margin of over 73,000 votes.

In the Lakhimpur-Kheri constituency, Mrs Usha Verma of the Congress-I was declared elected, defeating her nearest rival Dr Jai Shankar Bajpai of the Janata by a margin of over 68,000 votes.

In the Rae Bareli constituency, Congress-I candidate Arun Kumar Nehru has been declared elected. He defeated his nearest Lok Dal rival Janeshwar Mishra by a margin of over 107,000 votes.

CPI-M Wins West Bengal

BK260759 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 26 Feb 80 BK

[Text] A message just received says that Mr Dinen Bhatacharjee of the Communist Party of India-Marxist has been declared elected to the Lok Sabha from the Serampore constituency of West Bengal. He defeated his nearest Congress-I rival Dr Gopaldas Nag by a margin of over 106,000 votes in a six-cornered contest. Mr Bhatacharjee was elected from the same constituency in 1971 and 1977.

As already reported, in the other four Lok Sabha byelections which went to the poll on Sunday Congress-I candidates were successful.

MARXIST PARTY TO AVOID SPLITTING OPPOSITION VOTES IN ELECTIONS

BK271335 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The Communist Party of India-Marxist said that it will work for avoiding splitting of opposition votes in the forthcoming mid-term elections to the nine state assemblies. The party's Politburo reviewed the recent developments at its 2-day meeting in New Delhi.

Talking to newsmen party General Secretary E.M.S. Namboodiripad said that talks are already going on with all interested parties on avoiding splitting of opposition votes in the assembly elections.

The Politburo has also expressed concern over the economic situation. It urged that the states should have an effective share in the decisions on economic policies.

ASSAM STUDENTS REJECT MINISTER'S PROPOSAL ON FOREIGN NATIONALS

BK261042 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The All India Assam Students Union has said it will not accept any political decision on the foreign nationals issue. In a statement in Gauhati, the union president and the general secretary expressed concern over the outcome of their talks with union Home Minister Zail Singh on resolving the issue. They said the home minister proposed the 1971 electoral rolls as a basis for tackling the problem of foreign nationals and such an offer was not acceptable to the union.

PAKISTAN

GOVERNMENT DENIES DIVISION BEING ASSEMBLED AT AFGHAN BORDER

BK280316 Karachi Domestic Service in English 0300 GMT 28 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Pakistan has categorically denied reports that it is assembling a special mountain infantry division on the Pakistan-Afghan border. The denial was made by the Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi yesterday following reports that one infantry division, equipped with Chinese military aid, was assembled near the Afghan border.

FRANCE'S STIRN SPEAKS AT NEWS CONFERENCE

BK271626 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Feb 80 BK

[Text] French Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Olivier Stirn has said that France believes that the Soviet Union should withdraw its troops from Afghanistan and that the Afghan people should be provided the opportunity to determine their own political system.

Addressing a news conference before his departure from Islamabad at the end of his visit, he said that his talks with President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq and other Pakistani leaders reflected identical views on this issue. He noted that France is continuing its pressure for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. The French minister said that so far as the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan was concerned France was in accord with the United States but it did not agree with imposition of sanctions for this purpose. He maintained that Afghanistan should not become a danger to any of its neighboring country and that the big powers should guarantee its neutrality. France, he said, has kept its door open to hold talks with concerned countries. He described his talks with Pakistani leaders as useful.

As to French assistance for Afghan refugees, he said that France has already donated 200,000 tons of wheat and is ready to double this amount.

Referring to bilateral relations, the French minister asserted that the economic cooperation between Pakistan and France will continue, adding that France has provided Pakistan with 250 million francs in aid, which might be increased to 400 million this year.

Earlier, talking to refugees during his visit to an Afghan refugee camp at (?Kandaz), near Tarbela this morning, Stirn said that France will extend all possible assistance to alleviate their difficulties. He pointed out that France is fully aware of the heavy difficulties faced by Afghan refugees.

The Afghan refugees told the French state secretary that they had been forced to leave their homeland because of the Soviet aggression. They said that the freedom fighters were struggling for their independence without help from any other country and that they would continue their struggle until they regain independence.

The French minister said that the two countries were agreed on convening a meeting of the two countries [word indistinct] government level.

Stirn on Afghanistan

BK280456 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpts] The French minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Olivier Stirn, has said that France considers that the Soviet Union should withdraw from Afghanistan and the people of that country enabled to choose their political system according to their wishes.

He was addressing a news conference at Islamabad airport this evening before his departure at the conclusion of his visit to Pakistan.

Defining French policy, he said they consider that Afghanistan must not become a threat to any of its neighbors or a land of international dispute. It should have the status of a neutral state guaranteed by the two superpowers. He said France is exerting pressure on the Soviet Union in all its contacts with them and will keep dialog open with all the countries involved. He said it is in this light that he had useful talks with Pakistani friends. Very soon a senior French Foreign Ministry official would be visiting the Soviet Union, while the American secretary of state has already visited France in this regard. As for the initiative on the part of France for arranging a dialog between the countries involved, he said there is nothing on the cards as yet but when they feel it is feasible to do so they would take the initiative. He described his talks in Pakistan as very useful and said that the two sides had in-depth discussions on a number of matters concerning international affairs, with particular reference to the situation arising from the Soviet penetration in Afghanistan.

He said during their talks they also discussed the relations between Pakistan and India. He said France considers that the normalization of relations between the two nonalined states of India and Pakistan is in the interest of the future and stability of the South Asian subcontinent. Mr Stirn said that while discussing bilateral relations, the two sides agreed that there should be a meeting between the two countries on a yearly basis at government level. This meeting should be held in the two countries by rotation. The two sides agreed to expand their economic cooperation and to increase the trade between them with larger exports from Pakistan to France. Referring to the French economic aid of 250 million francs to Pakistan, he said France is prepared to increase the amount to 400 million francs during this year. Mr Stirn said that military cooperation between the two countries has been established on a very trustful basis and this cooperation would continue.

GOVERNOR FAZLE HAQ DESCRIBES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 13 Feb 80 p 1 WA

[Text] Peshawar, Feb 12: The NWFP [Northwest Frontier Province] Governor Lt. Gen. Fazle Haq has said that the provincial cabinet will be formed in NWFP in March next.

Talking to newsmen informally at Nowshera after inaugurating the new high-level bridge, the governor said the cabinet would consist of honest, dedicated and sincere persons, who could render real service to the people.

To a question, he said the Advisory Council, proposed to be established in the province, would consist of about 70 persons. They would be picked up from amongst the newly elected councillors and from different walks of life including doctors, professors, intellectuals, etc.

He said the Advisory Council would make proposals and suggestions to attune the governments' policies to the needs and aspirations of the people.

He told another questioner that work on the Dikhan-Darya Khan and Khairabad bridges was continuing at top and that the two bridges would be completed within the scheduled time.

SRI LANKA

KING OF NEPAL ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

BK241105 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The king and queen of Nepal were accorded a royal welcome when they arrived in Sri Lanka this afternoon. President Jayewardene was at the airport to greet the royal visitors. The airport ceremony included a 21-gun salute by the army and a guard of honor by the navy.

King Birendra will be having official talks with the president today. During their 3-day stay in Sri Lanka, the royal visitors will worship at (Tipalattu) at Kandy and also visit the seaside resort of (Dentota). The Colombo municipal council is scheduled to accord a civic reception to the king on Tuesday.

Talks With President

BK251118 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpt] King Birendra of Nepal and President Jayewardene held wide-ranging talks in Colombo yesterday. The talks, lasting 75 minutes, centered on international issues and matters of bilateral interests. King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya arrived in Sri Lanka yesterday on a 3-day state visit. The president and Mrs Jayewardene later held a garden party in their honor.

Prime Minister Premadasa is due to call on King Birendra this evening. The president and Mrs Jayewardene will hold a banquet in honor of the king and queen of Nepal tonight.

Foreign minister of Nepal K.B. Shahi and his Sri Lankan counterpart Hameed held talks this morning.

Speeches at Banquet

BK261218 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 Feb 80 BK

[Text] President Jayewardene speaking at the banquet hosted by him and Mrs Jayewardene for the royal visitors from Nepal in Colombo last night said that the government attached special importance ever since it assumed office to developing economic relations with other countries in the region. There was a very considerable potential for regional economic cooperation and this potential acquired special importance in the context of difficulties caused by global trends to small and developing countries like Sri Lanka and Nepal. For these reasons, it was imperative to do everything possible to bring about a satisfactory political climate in the region. He said he and the government attached special importance to the development of links between Nepal and Sri Lanka because both countries were engaged in trying to develop their economies.

The president said that recent regional and global developments were not merely disheartening but were even alarming. There had been over the years a proliferation of the most destructive weapons on a scale never known before in human history. In this situation, they had to do everything possible to reverse the events that had led to instability in the region and elsewhere. They must insist on respect for the principles of nonalinement and of the UN Charter and try to promote friendly and cooperative international relations through goodwill and understanding on the basis of respect for those principles.

President Jayewardene said Nepal had a very special place in the minds and hearts of the people of Sri Lanka. This was because Lumbini in Nepal was the birth place of Lord Buddha. It was heartening to him as the president of a Buddhist country and to the people of Sri Lanka to know that the government and the people of Nepal were devoting special attention to Lumbini. Sri Lanka was fully appreciative of the endeavors of King Birendra's government to develop Lumbini as a site of international significance and was prepared to assist its endeavors to the fullest extent possible.

King Birendra in his reply said Nepal shared with Sri Lanka not only a common consent for justice and peace in the world but a similarity of ideals and aspirations. They were bound by the same geography where the close ties of culture took them back to the dawn of history. Peace, tolerance, nonviolence and compassion constituted the basic ingredients of their Hindu and Buddhist heritage. He said: Let Hindu Nepal that gave birth to Gautam as the Buddha deliver a soulful message of peace in Nepal, peace in Sri Lanka, peace in Asia and the world. At a time when the sky is overcast again, the nations that refused to be alined with any bloc need to assert that the world consists of not just two but many a variety of shapes and colors, of race, religion, language, ideology, culture and mode of life.

The king expressed concern about the recent developments in the region, saying they were distressing for all. His government would like to see an immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Kampuchea and Afghanistan.

He also lamented about the impact of oil price increases on poorer nations. The desire to grow richer every day, he said, possibly tempted the oil producing countries to further the price hike. To the industrialized nations this meant some economic complications, but to the least developed and to the lanklocked countries where oil had to be imported, the burden was crushing. He also called for a just international economic order.

Yesterday, there was a special exposition of the sacred tooth relic in Kandy for the royal visitors.

Foreign Ministers Confer

BK261643 Hong Kong AFP in English 1519 GMT 26 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpts] Colombo 26 Feb (AFP)--Sri Lanka and Nepal have decided that a meeting of Buddhist countries and those with Buddhist connections be held at foreign ministers level in Colombo or in New York this year to explore ways of (?comparing) the Lumbini development program, it was announced here today.

This decision was taken at talks between the Nepalese Foreign Minister K.B. Shahi and his Sri Lankan counterpart A.C.S. Hameed when they discussed bilateral, regional and international issues according to a press release issued by the Foreign Ministry.

Sri Lanka, where the majority of the people are Buddhists, has taken a special interest in the development of Lumbini, the sacred place in Nepal, where Buddha was born. The project is being undertaken with assistance from the United Nations.

The two foreign ministers in their talks in international issues discussed in particular the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, the situation in Kampuchea and the recent developments in Iran, informed sources said.

At the talks here between the two foreign ministers it was decided that in respect of regional issues, the Asian foreign ministers should meet in September to review political and economic developments, the press release said. It did not elaborate.

The press release said trade between the two countries is to be increased and Nepal has indicated the possibility of supplying hardwood timber to Sri Lanka and importing from this country spices such as cloves, cinnamon, cardamom and betel leaves. Sri Lanka has expressed interest in helping Nepal in education, technical and administrative fields, it said.

Joint Communique Issued

BK271121 Hong Kong AFP in English 0551 GMT 27 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Colombo 27 Feb (AFP)--Sri Lanka and Nepal today called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces from Afghanistan and Kampuchea.

The call came in a joint communique issued at the conclusion of a three-day state visit to Sri Lanka by King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya of Nepal. They left today for Singapore.

The communique said King Birendra and Sri Lanka President J.R. Jayewardene reviewed the developments in the regions of Southeast Asia and South Asia and noted with serious concern the armed interventions that have been taking place in these regions.

"They reaffirmed their support for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kampuchea and Afghanistan and their right to decide the destiny by themselves without external interference. They called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces from these two countries", it said.

The communique did not specifically mention the Soviet Union or Vietnam in its references to armed interventions in Afghanistan and Kampuchea.

The communique said the two leaders expressed their hope that South Asia will be an area of peace, stability and co-operation and called upon all concerned to scrupulously respect the non-aligned status of the countries of South Asia.

It said that the two leaders reveiwing the international situation expressed their deep concern in regard to tensions and conflicts in some regions of the world constituting a threat to world peace and security.

They called for a speedy and comprehensive agreement on a durable and just peace in the Middle East within the framework of the United Nations and non-aligned resolutions.

The two heads of state reviewed the situation in southern Africa and emphasised the urgent need for the speedy elimination of policies of apartheid and racialism in southern Africa and re-asserted their support for the aspirations of the African people for the achievement of majority rule.

Assessing the current developments in Zimbabwe and Namibia, the two leaders expressed the hope that this would lead to early solution to the current problems and the independence of the people of the two countries.

The communique said King Birendra explained his proposal for Nepal as a zone of peace. President Jayewardene said that he supported the concept of peace zones in all parts of the world including Nepal and that in this context the proposal of King Birendra that Nepal be declared a zone of peace is a valuable contribution to this concept.

The two leaders felt that rising prices of oil and industrial products were proving to be a crushing burden on importing developing countries and agreed that greater assistance from the oil exporting countries and industrialised countries would be a significant contribution to economic co-operation among developing countries.

The two heads of state noted with satisfaction the steady development of cordial relations and co-operation between their two countries. President Jayewardene mentioned that a delegation from Sri Lanka would shortly visit Nepal to explore possibilities of further development of economic and commercial relations between the two countries.

The communique said the Sri Lankan president suggested that an early meeting be convened of foreign ministers of Buddhist countries and countries with Buddhist connections to help in expediting the completion of the development of Lumbini the Birth place of Gautama Buddha in Nepal.